# The AKEHURST Wills of East Sussex (1541 – 1858)

By Geoffrey Barber

2nd Edition
Version 2.06

Will Transcribers: Claire Wickens, Rosie Ansell, Sharon Ingersole et al.

# BIOGRAPHY
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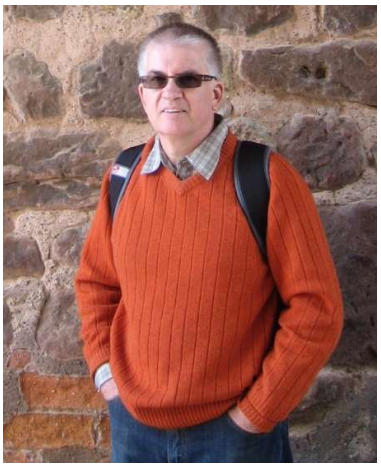
Geoff also enjoys writing articles for journals and has given talks on topics such as manorial records, tithe maps, DNA and self-publishing. He has a passion for quality and accurate research and on publishing to preserve our work for the future. In addition to books related to his own family history, Geoff has published "Manorial Records for Family Historians" (Unlock the Past, 2017); "The Akehurst Wills of East Sussex" in 2018 in association with the Akehurst one-name study group; "The Ashdown Wills of East Sussex"; "The Latter Wills of East Sussex" both in 2020; "The Breach Wills of East Sussex" and "The Alce Wills of East Sussex" in 2021; and "The Fermor/Farmer Wills of Rotherfield in East Sussex (1529 – 1700)" in 2022.

Geoff is a long-time member of the Sussex Family History Group and a supporter of their Wills Depository project which has over 17,000 Sussex wills transcribed. He is also a collector of 17th century Sussex & Kent merchant tokens and enjoys using his family history research skills to research the issuers of these tokens. He has had a number of articles published in the Token Corresponding Society Bulletin.



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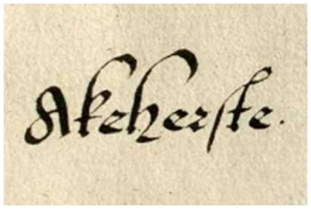
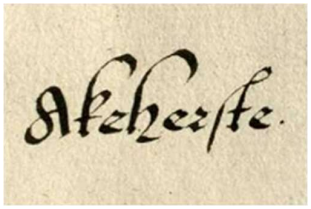


# Preface to the Revised Edition

A revised edition of this book was inevitable given the difficulty in being certain that all the Akehurst wills and admons had been identified and also because new information is always being discovered which allows further development of the family trees. Changes since the publication of the first edition include:

1. The addition of Will 24, John Ayhurst of Brede, 1633. This will identified much of his family and together with the will of his mother (Will 26, Susan Ayherst of Brede, 1638) allowed the Ayhurst tree to be extended significantly.
2. The addition of Will 31, Harbert Akehurst of London, 1653. Harbert is the son of Harbert and Susanna Akerst (see Will 17. Harbert Akerst of Hellingly, 1613/14).
3. The addition of Tree 9. "Rotherfield and Wadhurst". Although not containing any wills it it a major Akehurst tree that will be useful documented here.
4. The addition of Tree 10. "Withyham and Brighton" which is a subset of Tree 9. See explanation for this in that section.
5. Major extensions to Tree 3. "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" and minor extensions to some of the other trees.
6. Tree 6. has been connected to Tree 3. "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" following the discovery of the baptism of Thomas Ackhurst on 19 Feb 1748/49 at Eastbourne St Mary, son of John Ackhurst and Ann.
7. The addition of a transcript of survining legal documents from a challenge to the will of John Akehurst of London, 1693/94.
8. The addition of Tree 11. "John Akehurst of Laughton". Although there are no wills connected to this tree it is useful as a reference.
9. A summary of investigative work into the origins of Tree M1. "John Akehurst and Ann Pocock".
10. The addition of Admon of John Akehurst of Eastbourne, 1769.



# Introduction

This book assembles together all the known wills of the Akehurst families of East Sussex before 1858, after which the Church of England probate courts were replaced by the Principal Probate Registry (although a couple of wills after this date are included simply because the transcriptions were available). It cannot be guaranteed that this is the complete set and future revised editions may be needed to incorporate new discoveries, including non-Akehurst wills that contain valuable Akehurst information.

The book provides three indexes which offer great value to Akehurst researchers. The indexes are:

1. Wills by location.
2. Index of names occurring in the wills and in associated documents relevant to that will. These additional documents have generally been found by searching the ESRO on-line catalogue which often provides a detailed summary of the document's contents including names, dates and places.
3. Index of locations, local place names and properties mentioned in the wills and in associated documents.

These indexes have already facilitated the search for connected wills; that is, wills belonging to one extended family, sometimes a number of generations apart. Each will in this book includes a family tree placing the will in context and highlighting how other wills are connected. The trees are based on many years of research using primarily the Sussex Family History Group baptisms, marriages and burials indexes and are also based on the information gleaned from the Akehurst wills.

Many of the Akehurst family trees identified in this document remain "islands" waiting to be connected into a bigger structure. For this to happen, work needs move on from the wills and parish registers to other areas such as the history of Akehurst property ownership (Akehurst Farm, Sinderford, Redwall, etc) and manorial records where they exist. This may enable the gaps between some of the "islands"to be bridged.

There are many problems with constructing Akehurst family trees using just the parish registers as there are many missing entries and it is not possible to get a complete picture. At present, most Sussex Akehurst researchers will have difficulty proving their tree beyond the 1750s. East Sussex was rife with non-conformism and many baptisms and burials are simply not in the registers. In addition, the Akehursts moved quite freely between Hellingly, Hailsham, Herstmonceux, Warbleton, Wartling and the researcher cannot rely on their family staying put in one location for very long, although Hellingly does seem to be the centre point. Lastly, the large number of "John Akehursts" (and Thomas, William, Edward, etc.) just adds another layer of complexity.

Many Akehurst researchers have fallen into the trap of accepting an ancestor in their tree simply because "he is the only one that fits". The result has been the spread of many erroneous trees and it is hoped that publishing this book will make it easier for family trees to be debated and verified and hopefully will eliminate some of these errors. Despite the many Akehurst "brick walls" there is reason to be hopeful as information does come along from time to time which provides clarity. Sources such as poor law records or other people's wills which mention Akehursts as beneficiaries can provide vital information.

The author has been a long-time contributor to the Sussex Family History Group Wills Depository project which now has over 9,000 Sussex wills transcribed and available to members free of charge. Some of the wills in this book have come from the Wills Depository courtesy of Rosie Ansell, the project coordinator. However, most of the wills in this book have been transcribed by Claire Wickens specifically for this project and these have now also been contributed to the Wills Depository. This project would not have been possible without Claire's skill in reading and transcribing old documents, including Latin.

The work of all transcribers is gratefully acknowledged, especially Claire Wickens, Rosie Ansell and Sharon Ingersole who did the bulk of the work. Other transcribers were Morwena Akehurst, Kathryn Ellis, Tricia King, Domonic Motto, Jeremy Stroud and myself.

Conventions

The following conventions are used throughout this book:

1. The dates shown in the will titles are the probate dates, not the date the will was made (unless there is no probate date). To remove confusion, the year between 1st January and 25th March is written as, for example, 1592/93 wherever possible. Some historians want to leave it as written in the original document (e.g. 1592) and others (in the ESRO catalogue for example) write it as we would today; 1593.

2. In the indexes, all variants of the name Akehurst have been standardised to "Akehurst" to simplify use of the index with the exception of "Ayhurst" which, in one case, has been shown to be a variant of the surname "Ayers". Some instances of "Ayhurst" may have been absorbed eventually into "Akehurst" though. The original spelling of surnames is retained in the will transcriptions.

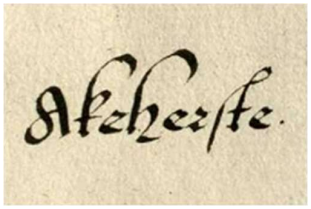
3. The family trees only show the year of events such as baptisms, marriages and deaths/burials. This has been done to simplify the appearance of the tree so the relationship between the people who left wills/admons is more clearly seen. The author is happy to provide charts with full dates for anyone interested (see contact details inside front page). Information concerning any errors or new evidence affecting family tree structures would be welcomed.

4. Abreviations:
   Admons: Letters of Administration
   ESRO: East Sussex Record Office
   PCC: Prerogative Court of Canterbury
   SFHG: Sussex Family History Group
   TNA: The National Archives
   HAM: Hampshire
   KEN: Kent
   LND: London
   MDX: Middlesex
   SSX: Sussex
   SRY: Surrey
   VIC: Victoria (Australia)
   NSW: New South Wales (Australia)
   PA: Pennsylvania

USA: United States of America
b. born
bap. baptised
m. married
mlic. marriage licence
d. died
bur. Buried
pr. probate

5. Symbols used in the transcriptions:
   // Page break in the original
   [ ] Transcriber's note or addition
   { } Unclear or illegible text

Geoffrey Barber
30 October 2018



# Chapter 1 - Mary Akehurst, Early Quaker of Lewes

This article brings to life one of the people whose genealogy is revealed through the Akehurst wills and other documents held by the East Sussex Record Office. It serves to remind us that everyone mentioned in this book has a complex life story that usually remains hidden to us. One of the great benefits of wills is that they often give us insights into this story.

Although best remembered as a Quaker, Mary Akehurst was also a merchant, carrying on her husband Raphe Akehurst's business after he died in 1666 (and yes, he left a will). A tangible link to her exists today through the tokens she issued in 1667 which bear her name (Fig. 1).[1] She was an independent woman who lived at a critical time in the development of religious freedoms in England.

**Fig. 1**. Mary Akehurst's token, 1667

She was born Mary Baker about 1635 at Hastings in Sussex, the daughter of Richard Baker, yeoman, and Anne Akehurst. Her parents were reasonably wealthy as evidenced by her father's will, proved in 1638, which left her a bequest of £250 when she reached age 21 years or married, whichever came first. Her three siblings received similar amounts.[2]

Mary's grandfather, John Akehurst (c1565-1630), was Mayor of Hastings in 1614.[3] Her mother Anne Baker (nee Akehurst), who later remarried to become Anne Franck, was sister to the wealthy John Akehurst who married Anne Newington in 1631 and lived at Cralle at Warbleton, a manor house that was largely rebuilt in 1722 and was then known as Cralle Place (Fig. 2). John Akehurst had property interests, including Akehurst Farm at Hellingly, as well as operating an iron forge and furnace at Cowbeech (Cralle).[4] They were highly regarded gentry and the parish registers always refer to him as Mr. John Akehurst. He left a will made in 1657 naming his sister Anne Francke and that is how we know of the connection to Mary[5].

Mary married Raphe Akehurst of St Thomas at the Cliffe, Lewes (possibly a cousin), on 11 August 1653 at Warbleton. The location suggests that her wedding may have been hosted by John Akehurst mentioned above. Raphe's father was a merchant who traded from Lewes across the English Channel with Dieppe and Calais as well as London. On two instances, in 1622 and 1638, he was suspected of smuggling but nothing came of it.[6] He died in 1654 and left a will.[7]

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[1] The Akehurst token is Sussex W73 in George C Williamson (Ed.): "Trade Tokens issued in the Seventeenth Century in England, Wales and Ireland, etc." (1891).
[2] Will of Richard Baker of Hastings, Sussex, England, made 10 Sep 1637, proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Lewes, 27 Jan 1637/38. (ESRO: PBT/1/1/25/80).
[3] W. G. Moss, *The History and Antiquities of the Town and Port of Hastings. Illustrated by A Series of Engravings From Original Drawings*, (1824).
[4] Wealden Iron Research Group Database: http://www.wirgdata.org/searchpro2.cgi?personid=1284 and http://www.wirgdata.org/searchsites2.cgi?siteid=550 Accessed 27 Sep 2018.
[5] Will of John Akehurst of Warbleton, Sussex, England, made 5 Aug 1657, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 21 Oct 1657. (TNA: PROB 11/268/302).
[6] Colin Brent, "Pre-Georgian Lewes: c890-1714: the emergence of a county town", 1st Edition (2004), p. 258, p. 311
[7] Will of Raphe Akehurst of Lewes, Sussex, England, made 23 Dec 1652, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 26 Dec 1654. (TNA: PROB 11/248/299).

His son Raphe, Mary's husband, continued in the business and his later will mentions a 1/12th interest in a barque (boat) doubtlessly used for trading.[8]

**Fig. 2.** "Cralle" (Cralle Place near Warbleton) in East Sussex, built 1722, drawn in 1785 by Samuel Hieronymus Grimm. This replaced the manor house in which Mary's uncle John Akerhurst and his wife Anna Newington lived, possibly from their marriage in 1631 to Anna's death c1693 . © British Library Board - Shelfmark: Additional MS 5670, Item number: f. 72 (no. 132)

Just two years after Mary's marriage, in 1655, the first preaching by a Quaker in Sussex occurred at Horsham and in the same year they preached at Lewes where a group calling themselves "Seekers" were converted. Mary was an early convert and the subsequent persecutions she suffered in her lifetime, including time spent in prison, clearly show her to be an independent woman with a strong will.

Mary's first recorded suffering as a Quaker was in 1659 at the hands of her own husband, who was clearly not a sympathiser. After Mary disrupted a church meeting by questioning the priest, her husband was called for and she received quite a beating from him. This continued over the ensuing weeks and included her being chained up inside her house, causing such concern among

[8] Will of Raphe Akehurst of Lewes, Sussex, England, made 27 Aug 1666, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 5 Oct 1666. (TNA: PROB 11/322/49).

her friends that they reported it to the Justices of the Peace. The episode is recorded in the Quaker Sufferings: [9]

> In this year [1659] Mary Akehurst, the wife of Ralph Akehurst, of the Cliff, neare Lewis, beeing moved to goe to St Michal's Steeplehouse (soe called), where an Independent priest [Walter Postlethwaite] was speaking, she for asking him a question, was by people haled out, and then sent for her aforesaid husband, who after she came home, did so hunch and pincht her, that she could not lift her arms to her head. The same Ralph again on the seventeenth day of the third month of this present yeare, bound the hands and feet of his said wife and pinioned her, and then covered her 19 very hot with bed-cloathes, and soe kept her for the space of foure or five houres; this it seems he did because she tooke occasion to reprove a hireling priest for belying her. Againe, upon the twenty-fifth day of the eighth month, the aforesaid Ralph did sorely abuse his wife, on which the following lines were sent unto two Justices of the Peace (soe called), to complain of and to declare the same that she might not perish in private, but to lay it home to them, then in authority, viz.: Whereas complaint hath beene made unto two of those who are in place to doe justice as, namely, Richard Boughton and Nathaniel Studly, of cruel persecution inflicted upon the body of a woman in the Clift, neare Lewis, by the hands of a wicked tirant, who is called her husband; his name is Ralph Akehurst, he hath chained his wife in a close back chamber in his house, between two high bed-steads, with a great chain much like a timber chain, containing thirty-five links, and a staple and lock, soe that this woman cannot move aboute the roome, or lye in the bed without this chaine, soe that with wait of itt it hath done much wrong to her legg, besides blows and bruses that he hath given her in executing his cruelty in putting on of this chaine, soe that thereby her body is much weakened at present, and murther may ensue if the Lord by his providence doth not some way for her deliverance; for this man hath promised that he will never unlock the chaine from off her, soe that in all likelyhood his heart is bent to destroy the body of this woman someway, for he hath attempted her life, as she hath said, by endeavouring to throatle her. We set this forth to declare to the world, that if this woman shall putt off the body or sacrifice her life through his cruelty, that none shall hereafter upon just grounds say that she hath destroyed herself, or done any evil to her owne body, soe that if inocent blood be shead, we shall be cleare and the guilt shall remaine upon the heads which suffer such things to be done.
>
> Mary Akehurst Subscribed by Mary Coulstock Ambrose Galloway Mary Dapson
>
> This paper was not only sent to two justices, but a copy of it was placed on the church door in the Cliffe, and another on the market-house post in Lewis.

Mary was probably quite relieved by the death of her husband seven years later in 1666 who left in his will *unto my dearly beloved wife Mary Akehurst Two hundred pounds Sterling and a request that she follow such Trade in buying and selling as she with the advice of my Executors and Overseers shall think most fit*. His death would have given her greater freedom to exercise her independence and religion. She never married again.[10]

It should be noted that it is uncertain as to whether Raphe Akehurst ever received Mary's inheritance of £250. In response to a complaint made by Mary's mother, Anne Francke, in 1657 he says *the said legacy aforsaid given by the said Richard Baker to this defendant's [Raphe's] wife is to this day unpaid notwthstandinge the same hath been due & payable above three yeares since & notwthstandinge this defendant hath often tymes in friendly mann[er] requested the same*. Raphe claimed that the marriage

[9] David Hitchin, "Quakers in Lewes: an informal history", 2nd Edition (2010), pp. 18-20

[10] Will of Raphe Akehurst of Lewes, Sussex, England, made 27 Aug 1666, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 5 Oct 1666. (TNA: PROB 11/322/49).

settlement agreed when he married Mary Baker in 1653 promised him £400 and upon receipt of that money he would make his wife a jointure (effectively joint ownership) in the dwelling where he lived and also in the surrounding meadow ground which had a yearly rental value of £20 or thereabouts, and to give his own bond to leave his wife £400 worth of personal estate in case she should survive him. It appears that the promises made in the marriage settlement had not been kept. Mary's mother Anne seems to have had her own problems as her second husband had died c1648 and in a dispute over his will (which left everything to be held in trust for the benefit of the children of their marriage) Anne's claims were found to be 'lacking in truth' but no details are given (see Chapter 4: Will of Richard Francke of Hastings, 1648). Anne was the executor of her first husband's estate but not of her second husband's and this may have caused some problems for her. Raphe states that she had paid the legacy owed to her eldest son, Richard Baker, and a later document in 1691 would seem to say that the other surviving siblings, Mary and Alexander, had still not received theirs. Nevertheless, Raphe left a £200 legacy to Mary in his will of 1666. Perhaps some money or property had changed hands, we just don't know the full picture. Anne Francke seems to be at the centre of a complex web of disputes over money and property and in 1691 it is stated that the £200 she brought into her marriage to Richard Francke c1639 had not been repaid to the children of Anne's first husband as agreed would happen after Richard Francke's death (c1648) and suggests that Richard Francke's executor's bore the responsibility for paying the legacies to Anne's children from her first marriage.[11, 12]

After Raphe's death in 1666, Mary carried on the family business and in 1667 issued a half penny token in her name, many of which survive today as a tangible remnant of her life. Copper or brass tokens were issued by traders as a result of the civil war (1642-1660) leaving the country short of coins. As the King had been deposed there was no law preventing the issuing of tokens as coinage, which would otherwise have been the King's prerogative. It is estimated that about 20,000 businesses in England produced tokens in order to carry on their business and examples of about 14,000 of these survive. Their usage was suppressed by a 1672 proclamation banning their use although they were to re-appear in the period 1787-97 as Provincial tokens.[13]

Some of the interesting events recorded during Mary's lifetime include:[14, 15]

- In 1672 Mary was visited by William Penn who lodged with her. Penn was an early Quaker and advocate of democracy and religious freedom, and later the founder of the English North American Colony the Province of Pennsylvania.
- In 1673 Mary Akehurst, widow, was fined £7 5s. for being part of a meeting of Friends (Quakers) and then £10 for the same in 1676.
- In 1677 Mary was prosecuted for not paying church tithes and excommunicated. She was committed to Horsham gaol and kept prisoner there for about a year
- In 1681 the Friend's Monthly Meeting reproved Widow Akehurst for allowing her children to scoff at people on the fast day as they went to the Steeplehouse [Anglican church].
- In 1682, Mary's children Ralph, Mary, Thomas and Alexander were indicted for non-attendance at church ("Absence from the National Worship").

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[11] *Reply of Ralphe Akehurst, defendant, to the Bill of Complaint of Anne Franck, widow, Complainant,* dated 21 May 1657, (TNA: C 6/135/84)

[12] *Assignment of mortgage for £138 13s 4d*, dated 17 Aug 1691, (ESRO: MIL 1/15/2)

[13] http://www.thecoppercorner.com/history/17thC_hist.html. Accessed 29 Sep 2018.

[14] Joseph Besse, "Sufferings of Early Quakers: Southern England 1653 to 1690", Facsimile of part of the 1753 edition. Sessions Book Trust, York, England (2006). Chap. XXXIV

[15] David Hitchin, "Quakers in Lewes: an informal history", 2nd Edition (2010).

- In 1683, Mary Akehurst and her children Mary and Thomas were fined for absenting themselves from church for three Sundays. The judge issued a warrant for distraining their goods (supposedly to the value of the fine but often more was taken).

Mary was one of the last Quakers to be held prisoner at Horsham gaol. In 1687, at about 52 years of age, she was prosecuted for not paying church tithes and excommunicated for refusing to pay. She remained a prisoner there for 7 months before being committed to the Kings Bench debtors' prison in London, considered a much more comfortable place than Horsham gaol! The following text quoted from the Quaker Sufferings dramatically describes the event: [16]

> • ANNO 1687. Mary Akehurst, of the Cliff, near Lewis [Lewes], Widow, having been prosecuted in the Ecclesiaftical Court for Tithes, at the Suit of John Eresby, Priest, was excommunicated, and on the 9th of the Month called July, near Midnight, was taken by two Bayliffs with a Writ de Excommunicato capiendo. The next Day, being the Day called Sunday, they carried her away to Prison, though she had been a long time sick, and was even then so weak, that she could not walk without holding : Nevertheless, one of the Bayliffs, being drunk, when he got on Horseback, with many Oaths and Threatnings had her set upon his Horse, and would not suffer her to take Necessaries with her, so that her Friends thought she could not live till she came to the Prison : But the barbarous Bayliff swore, that *If she could not hold it to Prison, which was twenty Miles, he would tie her, and drag her thither at his Horse's Tail.* Being brought to Horsham Goal, she was kept close Prisoner there about seven Months, and then was removed to London, and committed to the King's-Bench. The unusual Cruelty exercised on this innocent Woman, proceeded from an inveterate Malice the Parson had long conceived against Thomas Akehurst her Son, on the following Occasion : The Prieft had made a false Information against Thomas Akehurst for being at two Meetings, where he was not : Akehurst indicted the Parson for Perjury, and the Grand Jury found the Bill against him at Lewis Sessions in 1683. This enraged the Parson, and he, as it was generally thought, by way of Revenge, thus severely prosecuted his aged sickly Mother.

The worst of the persecution ended in 1689 with the passing of The Act of Toleration which released Quakers from the obligation of attending church and taking the sacraments. However, they were still liable for the payment of tithes and suffered much financial loss during the next two centuries. [17]

Mary continued her membership and support of the Society of Friends (Quakers) at Lewes until her death in 1691. She had the support of her surviving children Raphe, Thomas and Mary who were also Quakers, all of whom were persecuted at various times. She died at Lewes, aged about 56 years and was buried on 29 September 1691 at the Quaker burial ground at Rottingdean where three of her children, John, Samuel and Alexander had been buried in 1672, 1679 and 1683 respectively.[18] Quakers would not have their bodies buried in consecrated ground and so provided their own burial grounds, or even utilized their own orchards or gardens. She was a committed Quaker to the end and that is probably how she would want to be remembered. Unfortunately, she did not leave a will.

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[16] Joseph Besse, "Sufferings of Early Quakers: Southern England 1653 to 1690", Facsimile of part of the 1753 edition. Sessions Book Trust, York, England (2006). p. 734

[17] David Hitchin, "Quakers in Lewes: an informal history", 2nd Edition (2010). p. 45

[18] The Quaker Burial Ground at Rottingdean is on the local heritage list and is at the corner of The Green and Dean Court Road (50°48'26.7"N, 0°03'27.9"W or 50.807421, -0.057756).

**Fig. 3.** The Quaker graveyard at Rottingdean is marked on the above map as "Grave Y$^{d}$". (OS Six-inch England and Wales, Sussex LXVI, surveyed: 1873-1875, published: 1880).

**Mary Baker's Family Tree**

(People who left wills/admons highlighted in grey. All places in Sussex unless otherwise shown.)

**John Akehurst,** b. c1565 at Hellingly?, d. 1630 at Hastings?, bur. at Hellingly. Mayor of Hastings 1614
+ **Mary (--?--),** b. c1580, m. c1595, d. 1639 at Hastings, bur. at Hellingly
- **Mary Akehurst,** b. c1598 at Hastings?
  + **(--?--) Reyste,** m. c1620
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1601 at Hastings, d. 1657 at Warbleton — Gentleman of Cralle
  + **Anna Newington,** b. c1610, m. 1631 at Hellingly, d. c1693 at Warbleton?
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1633 at Hellingly, d. 1693
    - **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1634 at Hellingly
    - **Anna Akehurst,** bap. 1636 at Hellingly
      + **(--?--) Mason,** m. c1660
        - **Samuel Mason,** b. c1665
        - **Joseph Mason,** b. c1670
      + **George Capstock**
    - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1637 at Hellingly, d. 1657 at Hellingly
- **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1607 at Hastings
- **Anne Akehurst,** bap. 1610 at Hastings
  + **Richard Baker,** b. c1609, d. 1637 at Hastings — Yeoman of Hastings
    - **Richard Baker,** b. c1633 at Hastings
    - **Mary Baker,** b. c1635 at Hastings, d. 1691 at Lewes, bur. Rottingdean Quaker burial ground
      + **Raphe Akehurst,** b. c1625, m. 1653 at Warbleton, d. 1666 at Ireland? Haberdasher/Merchant
        - **Raphe Akehurst,** b. c1655 at Lewes
        - **Samuel Akehurst,** b. c1657 at Lewes, d. 1679 at Lewes
        - **Alexander Akehurst,** b. c1659 at Lewes, d. 1683 at Lewes

- **John Akehurst,** b. c1661 at Lewes, d. 1672 at Lewes
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1664 at Lewes
- **Mary Akehurst,** b. c1665 at Lewes
  - + **John Field,** m. 1687 at Lewes
- **John Baker,** b. c1637 at Hastings, d. 1645 at Hastings
- **Abraham Baker,** bap. 1638 at Hastings

+ **Richard Franck,** m. c1639, d. 1648 at Ashburnham — Clerk of Hastings

- **Anne Franck,** bap. 1640 at Hastings
  - + **John Reeds,** m. 1663 at Westham
    - **Thomas Reeds,** b. c1665
- **Francis Franck,** bap. 1642 at Hastings, d. 1669 at Hastings
  - + **Susan (--?--),** m. c1665
    - **Susan Franck,** bap. 1665 at Hastings
    - **Richard Franck,** bap. 1668 at Hastings — of Jamaica
- **Richard Franck,** bap. 1645 at Hastings

**Deborah Akehurst,** bap. 1613 at Hastings, d. 1679 at Hastings

+ **John Winter,** m. 1637 at Hastings, d. 1675 at Hastings — Curate of Hastings

- **John Winter,** b. 1639, d. 1639 at Hastings
- **Mary Winter,** bap. 1641 at Hastings
  - + **Thomas Symonds,** m. c1665
- **John Winter,** bap. 1644 at Hastings
- **Samuel Winter,** bap. 1646 at Hastings, d. 1673 at Hastings
- **Thomas Winter,** bap. 1648 at Hastings
- **Deborah Winter,** bap. 1651 at Hastings
  - + **Philip Griffiths,** m. 1688 at Hastings
- **a child Winter,** b. c1654 at Hastings, d. 1654 at Hastings
- **James Winter,** b. c1656
  - + **Margaret Goreham,** m. 1686 at Guestling, d. 1711 at Hastings

**Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1615 at Hastings

Note:
The 1691 document "Assignment of mortgage" (ESRO: MIL 1/15/2) provides detailed genealogical information which was crucial to establishing the above family tree. See the will of Richard Baker, 1638 for details.

# Chapter 2 - The Main Family Trees

This section presents the main Akehurst family trees associated with the Akehurst wills. The people who left wills/admons are highlighted in each tree which then form a visual index for related wills. These trees are an important part of this book and are the product of many years of research and analysis of parish registers (mostly the SFHG indexes), census records, miscellaneous documents and, of course, the Akehurst wills. All places are in Sussex except where shown.

It is not possible to put together a single, large Akehurst family tree and the trees presented below are just pieces in the overall jigsaw. In addition to these trees there are many smaller family clusters presented in this book which have been left attached to their relevant wills. It is possible that further research will enable some of these to be attached to the larger trees in the future.

## Tree 1. Robert Akehurst of Hellingly

The earliest person in this tree, Robert Akehurst b. c1500) is presumed to be the father of John Akehurst who left a will in 1591 based on the common occurrence of the christian name Edward in both Robert and John's family. Robert mentions both a brother and a son named Edward, but his principal heir is his son John.

**(--?--) Akehurst**
+ **unknown spouse**
- **Robert Akehurst,** b. circa 1500, d. circa 1559 at Hellingly
  + **Alice (--?--),** m. c1525, d. after 1559
    - **John Akehurst,** b. c1525, d. 1591 at Hellingly
      + **Agnes (--?--),** b. c1530, m. c1550, d. 1595 at Hellingly
        - **Edward Akehurst,** b. c1550 at Hellingly, d. 1592 at Hellingly
          + **Joan (--?--),** b. c1550
            - **John Akehurst,** b. c1575 at Hellingly, d. 1617 at Catsfield
              + **unknown spouse**
                - **John Akehurst,** b. c1600
                - **Margaret Akehurst,** d. 1613 at Catsfield
                - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** d. 1614 at Catsfield
                - **Mary Akehurst,** d. 1615 at Catsfield
              + **Katherine Boyse,** b. c1590, m. 1615 at Catsfield
                - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1618 at Battle
            - **Harbert Akehurst,** b. c1576 at Hellingly
            - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. c1580 at Hellingly
              + **James Emery,** m. 1592 at Hailsham
        - **Joane Akehurst,** b. c1555 at Hellingly
          + **Thomas a'Milles,** m. c1580
            - **Sara a'Milles,** b. c1580
            - **Phebe a'Milles,** b. c1582
            - **Comforte a'Milles,** b. c1584
        - **Thomasyne Akehurst,** b. c1560 at Hellingly, d. 1614 at Hellingly
          + **John Frende,** m. c1585, d. 1614 at Hellingly
            - **John Frende,** b. c1585
            - **Agnes Frende,** b. c1588
            - **Joane Frende,** b. c1590
              + **John Grist,** m. 1614 at Hellingly
            - **Richard Frende,** b. c1600 at Hellingly, d. 1612 at Hellingly

- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. c1560 at Hellingly, d. 1619 at Hellingly
  + **Richard Milles,** m. c1580, d. 1620 at Hellingly
    - **Mary Milles,** b. c1582
    - **Anna Milles,** b. c1584
    - **Returne Milles,** b. c1586, d. 1627 at Hellingly
      + **Elizabeth Abbington,** m. 1625 at Hellingly, d. 1626 at Hellingly
    - **John Milles,** b. c1588, d. 1647 at Hellingly
    - **Elias Milles,** b. c1590, d. 1624 at Hellingly
- **daughter Akehurst,** b. c1560 at Hellingly, d. before 1591
  + **Thomas Wickersham,** m. c1580
    - **John Wickersham,** b. c1580
    - **Agnes Wickersham,** b. c1582
    - **Jane Wickersham,** b. c1584
    - **Debora Wickersham,** b. c1586
      + **Jeremy Tomkin,** m. 1612 at Chiddingly
    - **Judith Wickersham,** b. c1590 at Hellingly
      + **John Floot,** m. 1611 at Hailsham
- **Mary Akehurst,** b. c1530
- **Bartholomew Akehurst,** b. c1535
- **Anne Akehurst,** b. c1538
- **Edward Akehurst,** b. c1540

- **John Akehurst,** b. c1500
- **Edward Akehurst,** b. c1500

The following tree may be connected because both contain marriages to the Milles family:

**Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1540, d. c1601 at Hailsham
+ **Susan (--?--),** b. c1540, m. c1565, d. 1615 at Hailsham
- **Mary Akehurst,** b. c1570 at Hailsham?, d. 1602 at Hailsham
  + **John Harmer,** m. c1590
- **Edward Akehurst,** b. c1575 at Hailsham?
  + **Sarah Milles,** mlc. 1607
    - **unnamed Akehurst,** b. 1609 at Hailsham, d. 1609 at Hailsham
    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1610 at Hailsham, d. 1614 at Hailsham
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1612 at Hailsham, d. 1614 at Hailsham
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1612 at Hailsham, d. 1617 at Hailsham
    - **Dorothy Akehurst,** bap. 1614 at Hailsham
    - **Patience Akehurst,** bap. 1617 at Hailsham
    - **Sarah Akehurst,** b. c1620 at Hailsham?, d. 1623 at Hailsham

## Tree 2. John Akehurst and Anna Newington

The origins of this tree are at Hellingly but with branches to Hastings, Warbleton and Lewes. This family line was prosperous and wealthy and includes John Akehurst (c1560-1630) who was Mayor of Hastings in 1614[19] and the gentry family of John Akehurst and Anna Newington of Hellingly/Warbleton. The well known Mary Akehurst (nee Baker), an early Quaker of Lewes, is also part of this tree.

The will of Harbert Akehurst, 1614 is crucial in constructing the early parts of this tree. In it he names is brother John Akehurst of Hastings. Joan Akehurst's will of 1604 provides the link between Harbert and the father Shepard Akehurst. The admon of Mary Akehurst of Hastings in 1639 and the will of her son John Akehurst in 1657 further connects the people in the tree. The naming of his sister Anne Francke in John Akehurst's will of 1657 is of particular importance.

**Shepard Akehurst,** b. c1530, d. before 1602 at Hellingly
+ **Joan (--?--),** b. c1530, m. c1555, d. 1604 at Hellingly
- **daughter Akehurst,** b. c1555 at Hellingly?
  + **(--?--) Glasner,** m. c1580
  - **Elizabeth Glasner,** b. c1580
    + **(--?--) Goodwyn,** m. c1600
- **Harbert Akehurst,** b. c1560 at Hellingly?, d. 1614 at Hellingly
  + **Susanna (--?--),** m. c1580, d. 1642 at Heathfield
  - **Harbert Akehurst,** b. c1582, d. 1653 at London
    + **(--?--) Bonnicke,** m. c1625
    - **Susan Akehurst,** bap. 1634 at London, d. 1635 at London
  - **John Akehurst,** b. c1585
  - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. c1588, d. 1614 at Hellingly
  - **Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1590
  - **Alice Akehurst,** b. c1595
- **John Akehurst,** b. c1565 at Hellingly?, d. 1630 at Hastings?, bur. at Hellingly.
  + **Mary (--?--),** b. c1580, m. c1595, d. 1639 at Hastings, bur. at Hellingly
  - **Mary Akehurst,** b. c1598 at Hastings?
    + **(--?--) Reyste,** m. c1620
  - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1601 at Hastings, d. 1657 at Warbleton
    + **Anna Newington,** b. c1610, m. 1631 at Hellingly, d. c1693 at Warbleton?
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1633 at Hellingly, d. 1693
    - **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1634 at Hellingly
    - **Anna Akehurst,** bap. 1636 at Hellingly
      + **(--?--) Mason,** m. c1660
      - **Samuel Mason,** b. c1665
      - **Joseph Mason,** b. c1670
      + **George Capstock**
    - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1637 at Hellingly, d. 1657 at Hellingly
  - **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1607 at Hastings
  - **Anne Akehurst,** bap. 1610 at Hastings
    + **Richard Baker,** b. c1609, d. 1637 at Hastings
    - **Richard Baker,** b. c1633 at Hastings
    - **Mary Baker,** b. c1635 at Hastings, d. 1691 at Lewes, bur. Rottingdean Quaker
      + **Raphe Akehurst,** b. c1625, m. 1653 at Warbleton, d. 1666 at Dublin?, Ireland?

[19] W. G. Moss, *The History and Antiquities of the Town and Port of Hastings. Illustrated by A Series of Engravings From Original Drawings*, (1824).

- **Raphe Akehurst,** b. c1655 at Lewes
- **Samuel Akehurst,** b. c1657 at Lewes, d. 1679 at Lewes
- **Alexander Akehurst,** b. c1659 at Lewes, d. 1683 at Lewes
- **John Akehurst,** b. c1661 at Lewes, d. 1672 at Lewes
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1664 at Lewes
- **Mary Akehurst,** b. c1665 at Lewes
  - + **John Field,** m. 1687 at Lewes
- **John Baker,** b. c1637 at Hastings, d. 1645 at Hastings
- **Abraham Baker,** bap. 1638 at Hastings

+ **Richard Franck,** m. c1639, d. 1648 at Ashburnham

- **Anne Franck,** bap. 1640 at Hastings
  - + **John Reeds,** m. 1663 at Westham
    - **Thomas Reeds,** b. c1665
- **Francis Franck,** bap. 1642 at Hastings, d. 1669 at Hastings
  - + **Susan (--?--),** m. c1665
    - **Susan Franck,** bap. 1665 at Hastings
    - **Richard Franck,** bap. 1668 at Hastings
- **Richard Franck,** bap. 1645 at Hastings

**Deborah Akehurst,** bap. 1613 at Hastings, d. 1679 at Hastings

+ **John Winter,** m. 1637 at Hastings, d. 1675 at Hastings

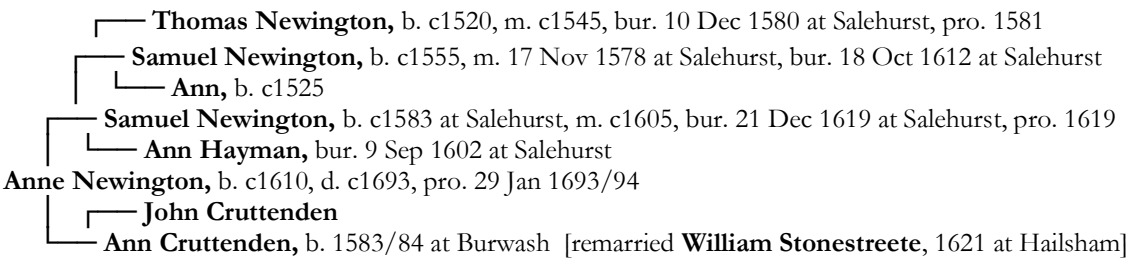
- **John Winter,** b. 1639, d. 1639 at Hastings
- **Mary Winter,** bap. 1641 at Hastings
  - + **Thomas Symonds,** m. c1665
- **John Winter,** bap. 1644 at Hastings
- **Samuel Winter,** bap. 1646 at Hastings, d. 1673 at Hastings
- **Thomas Winter,** bap. 1648 at Hastings
- **Deborah Winter,** bap. 1651 at Hastings
  - + **Philip Griffiths,** m. 1688 at Hastings
- **a child Winter,** b. c1654 at Hastings, d. 1654 at Hastings
- **James Winter,** b. c1656
  - + **Margaret Goreham,** m. 1686 at Guestling, d. 1711 at Hastings

**Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1615 at Hastings

Note: It appears from the Hellingly parish registers that John Akehurst and Anna Newington had four children: John, Samuel, Anna and Mary. All were baptised to "Mr. John Akehurst" although in all cases, the mother was not named. The wills of both John Akehurst and his wife Anne/Anna Akehurst (nee Newington) make no mention of Samuel nor any of his descendants. It has been presumed that he died before the wills were made (1657 and 1664) although his burial has not been found. This is mentioned here because many Akehurst trees have this Samuel marrying Mary Maides in 1668 at Hellingly . The evidence gained so far casts much doubt on this.

Anne Newington's father, Samuel Newington, died in 1619 and left a will (see 67. Will of Samuell Newington of Burwash, 1619 which includes the Newington family tree). The will mentions no other children but Anne. Her widowed mother, Anne, remarried William Stonestreet on 17 Jul 1621 at Hailsham. Her daughter Anne Newington married John Akehurst on 31 Oct 1631 at Hellingly. John Akehurst died in 1657 and left a will in which he writes "I give to my mother **Anne Stonestreete** fourteene poundes by the yeare …" referring to his mother-in-law. This has previously confused many people into thinking that John Akehurst's biological mother was a Stonestreet, which is wrong.

Anne Newington's predigree is given below:




The will of John and Anne Akehurst's son, John Akehurst (1633-1693), only mentions his sister Anna and her two sons, Samuel and Joseph Mason, suggesting he never had children of his own. It would therefore appear that Anna was the only child of John Akehurst and Anna Newington to have children.

## Tree 3. Edward Akehurst of Hooe

This tree starts at Hellingly and moves to Warbleton, Eastbourne, East Grinstead, Hooe and Hastings. From Eastbourne, the tree moves to Brighton where it grows into a significant branch of the Akehursts there in the early 19th century.

**Samuel Akehurst,** b. circa 1640, d. 1685 at Hellingly
+ **Mary Maides,** m. 1668 at Hellingly
- **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1669 at Hellingly, d. 1747 at Hellingly
  + **Elizabeth (--?--),** bap. circa 1673, m. circa 1690, d. 1722 at Hellingly
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1691 at Hellingly
    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1695 at Hellingly
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1698 at Hellingly, d. 1708 at Hellingly
    - **Mary Akehurst,** b. 1702 at Hellingly, d. 1702 at Hellingly
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1671 at Hellingly, d. 1715 at Warbleton
  + **Ann (--?--),** m. circa 1690
    - **John Akehurst,** b. circa 1690, d. 1737 at Warbleton
      + **Sarah Martin,** m. 1719 at Dallington
        - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1719 at Warbleton, d. 1723 at Warbleton
        - **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1721 at Warbleton, d. 1789 at Waldron
          + **Ann Bannister,** b. circa 1730, m. 1754 at Wartling
            - **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1755 at Wartling, d. 1832 at East Grinstead
              + **Elizabeth (--?--),** b. circa 1761, m. circa 1785, d. 1847 at East Grinstead
                - **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1787 at East Grinstead
                + **(--?--) French,** m. circa 1810
                - **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1789 at East Grinstead
                + **(--?--) Barker,** m. circa 1815
                - **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1791 at East Grinstead
                - **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1793 at East Grinstead
                + **Elizabeth Ann Gibb,** m. 1817 at East Grinstead, d. circa 1836 at East Grinstead
                + **Mary Tasker,** bap. 1810 at Hartfield, m. 1836 at East Grinstead
                - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1796 at East Grinstead
                - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1799 at East Grinstead
                - **William Akehurst,** b. circa 1801 at East Grinstead
                - **Mary Akehurst,** b. circa 1803 at East Grinstead
                  + **Michael Mitchell,** b. circa 1797 at East Grinstead, m. 1823 at East Grinstead
            - **Anne Akehurst,** bap. 1756 at Wartling
            - **Lucy Akehurst,** bap. 1763 at Heathfield
            - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1771 at Heathfield
            - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1773 at Heathfield
        - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1723 at Warbleton
        - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1727 at Warbleton
        - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1734 at Warbleton
    - **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1691 at Wilmington
    - **Mary Akehurst,** b. circa 1693
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1695 at Wilmington
    - **Ann Akehurst,** b. 1698 at Warbleton
    - **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1700 at Warbleton, d. 1758 at Hooe
      + **Mary (--?--),** b. circa 1700, m. circa 1725, d. 1756 at Hooe
        - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1725 at Warbleton, d. 1753 at Bexhill
          + **Richard Stubberfield,** m. 1747 at Wartling
            - **Richard Stubberfield,** bap. 1747 at Bexhill

- **Edward Stubberfield,** bap. 1748 at Bexhill
- **Thomas Stubberfield,** bap. 1750 at Bexhill, d. 1750 at Bexhill

**Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1727 at Warbleton, d. 1728 at Warbleton

**Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1728 at Warbleton

+ **John Akehurst,** b. circa 1730, m. 1753 at Mountfield, d. 1796 at Hooe
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1753 at Hooe
- **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1754 at Hooe, d. 1754 at Hooe
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1756 at Hooe
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1758 at Hooe, d. 1759 at Hooe
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1762 at Hooe
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1766 at Hooe

+ **Mary Richardson,** m. 1792 at Bexhill
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1793 at Hooe, d. 1844 at Hastings

+ **Elizabeth Bridgart,** m. 1818 at Brighton
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1823 at Hastings
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1826 at Hastings, d. 1826 at Hastings

- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1793 at Hooe
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1794 at Hooe
- **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1795 at Hooe
- **Lucy Akehurst,** b. 1798 at Hooe
- **William Akehurst,** b. 1799 at Hooe, d. 1883 at Hastings

+ **Hannah Beany,** bap. 1803 at Salehurst, m. 1822 at Hastings, d. 1885 at Hastings
- **George Akehurst,** bap. 1823 at Hastings
- **William Akehurst,** b. circa 1825 at Hastings
- **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1827 at Hastings

+ **Edward Elphick,** m. 1853 at Newington
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1829 at Hastings
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1831 at Hastings, d. 1838 at Hastings
- **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1833 at Hastings, d. 1838 at Hastings
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1836 at Hastings, d. 1847 at Hastings
- **Fanny Akehurst,** b. circa 1837 at Hastings

+ **Albert Barham,** m. 1860 at Rye
- **Edward Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1840 at Hastings
- **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1842 at Hastings

+ **William Goodman Porter,** m. 1864 at Hastings
- **Alfred Akehurst,** b. 1844 at Hastings

- **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1731 at Warbleton, d. 1752 at Hooe
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1733 at Warbleton, d. 1733 at Warbleton
- **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1734 at Warbleton, d. 1734 at Warbleton
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1740 at Warbleton, d. 1751 at Hooe
- **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1741 at Warbleton, d. 1753 at Warbleton

- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1703 at Warbleton
- **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1705 at Warbleton

**Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1676 at Hellingly, d. 1758 at Eastbourne

+ **Elinor Aschurch,** m. 1703 at Eastbourne, d. 1758 at Eastbourne
- **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1705 at Eastbourne, d. 1766 at Eastbourne

+ **Mary Reeds,** m. 1741 at Eastbourne, d. 1762 at Eastbourne
- **Francis Akehurst,** bap. 1743 at Eastbourne

+ **Elizabeth Collins,** m. 1766 at Eastbourne
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1708 at Eastbourne
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1712 at Eastbourne, d. 1769 at Eastbourne [Mon. Inscr.]

+ **Ann Winchester,** bap. 1718 at Eastbourne, m. 1745 at Eastbourne

└── **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1749 at Eastbourne
+ **Mary Glazier,** m. 1770 at Brighton, d. 1789 at Brighton
├── **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1772 at Eastbourne
├── **John Akehurst,** bap. 1773 at Brighton
├── **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1774 at Brighton
+ **Frances Cooms,** b. c1770, m. 1804 at Brighton, d. 1822 at Brighton
├── **Frances Akehurst,** bap. 1804 at Brighton, d. 1804 at Brighton
├── **Fanny Akehurst,** bap. 1806 at Brighton
├── **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1808 at Brighton
+ **Samuel Bastick,** m. 1837 at Brighton
├── **George Akehurst,** bap. 1809 at Brighton
└── **James Akehurst,** bap. 1810 at Brighton
├── **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1776 at Brighton, d. 1844 at Brighton
+ **Catherine (--?--),** b. c1775, m. c1800, d. 1845 at Brighton
├── **John Akehurst,** b. 1800 at Brighton, d. 1800 at Brighton
├── **Mary Akehurst,** b. 1801 at Brighton, d. 1801 at Brighton
├── **Samuel Akehurst,** b. 1802 at Brighton
├── **Augusta Akehurst,** b. 1804 at Brighton, d. 1804 at Brighton
├── **Frederick Akehurst,** b. 1807 at Brighton, d. 1807 at Brighton
├── **Charlotte Akehurst,** b. 1808 at Brighton, d. 1816 at Brighton
├── **Eliza Akehurst,** b. 1809 at Brighton
+ **William Reason,** b. c1806 at March, CAM, m. 1841 at Brighton
├── **Matilda Akehurst,** b. 1811 at Brighton, d. 1811 at Brighton
├── **Priscilla Akehurst,** b. 1811 at Brighton
├── **Emma Akehurst,** b. 1812 at Brighton, d. 1830 at Brighton
├── **Fanny Akehurst,** b. 1812 at Brighton
├── **Sophia Akehurst,** b. 1815 at Brighton, d. 1821 at Brighton
└── **William Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1817 at Brighton
├── **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1777 at Brighton
├── **William Akehurst,** bap. 1780 at Brighton, d. 1855 at Brighton
+ **Ann Sims,** bap. 1782 at Battle, m. 1801 at Brighton
├── **William Akehurst,** b. 1803 at Brighton
+ **Ann Lansdale (nee Bishop),** b. 1797 at Brighton, m. 1827 at Brighton, d. 1845 at Brighton
├── **William Frederick Akehurst,** bap. 1828 at Brighton
+ **Eliza Farncombe,** m. 1851 at Brighton
├── **George Akehurst,** bap. 1830 at Brighton
├── **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1832 at Brighton
├── **Robert Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1836 at Brighton
└── **Charles Jonathan Sima Akehurst,** bap. 1839 at Brighton
+ **Jane Humphreys,** m. 1847 at Brighton
├── **Stephen Akehurst,** b. 1805 at Brighton
├── **Joseph Akehurst,** b. 1809 at Brighton (bap. 1815 at Lewes Jireh)
+ **Elizabeth Lambert,** m. 1831 at Brighton
├── **Mary Ann Akehurst,** b. 1810 at Lewes
├── **Benjamin Akehurst,** bap. 1812 at Lewes
├── **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. c1815 at Brighton
+ **Thomas Turner,** m. 1854 at Westminster, MDX
├── **Susanna Akehurst,** b. 1817 at Brighton (bap. 1834)
+ **James Kettle,** m. 1852 at Brighton, d. 1887 at East Preston
├── **Jonathan Akehurst,** b. 21 Mar 1819 (bap. 1834)
├── **Rebecca Akehurst,** b. 3 Jan 1821 at Brighton (bap. 1834)
├── **Sarah Akehurst,** b. 5 Jul 1823 at Brighton (bap. 1834)

+ **David Anscombe,** b. c1830 at Wivelsfield, m. 1851 at Brighton
**Ruth Akehurst,** b. 26 Apr 1825 at Brighton (bap. 1834)
**Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1782 at Brighton
**Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1782 at Brighton, d. 1782 at Brighton
**Martha Akehurst,** bap. 1782 at Brighton
**Edward Akehurst,** b. 1784 at Brighton, d. 1784 at Brighton
**Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1714 at Eastbourne
**Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1717 at Eastbourne
**Peter Akehurst,** bap. 1719 at Eastbourne, d. 1799 at East Dean
+ **Jane Brook,** bap. 1738 at East Dean, m. 1764 at East Blatchington, d. 1779 at East Dean
**Francis Akehurst,** bap. 1765 at East Dean
**Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1767 at East Dean
**Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1771 at East Dean
**Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1773 at East Dean
**William Akehurst,** bap. 1775 at East Dean
**child Akehurst,** b. 1682 at Hellingly, d. 1682 at Hellingly

## Tree 4. Hailsham, Alfriston, West Firle

**Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1560, d. 1612 at Hailsham, pro. 1612
+ **Margaret (--?--),** b. c1560, m. c1585
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1586 at Hailsham
- **Alice Akehurst,** bap. 1587 at Hailsham
  + **Edward Paynter,** m. 1612 at Hailsham
- **Francis Akehurst,** bap. 1590 at Hailsham, d. 1604 at Hailsham
- **Eva Akehurst,** bap. 1593 at Hailsham
  + **James Hewitt,** m. 1614 at Hailsham
- **Robert Akehurst,** bap. 1596 at Hailsham, d. 1614 at Hailsham
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1599 at Hailsham
  + **Joan Trapson,** m. 1623 at Peasmarsh
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1624 at Wilmington, d. 1681 at Westham, pro. 1682
      + **Elizabeth Wilkin,** mbn. 1655 at Hailsham
        - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1658 at Hailsham, d. 1716 at Hellingly
          + **Edward Wenham,** b. c1655, m. 1679 at Hailsham
            - **Edward Wenham,** bap. 1684 at Hellingly, d. 1767 at Hellingly, pro. 1767
              + **Elizabeth Fox,** m. 1705 at Westham, d. 1716 at Hellingly
                - **Edward Wenham,** bap. 1707 at Hellingly, d. 1801 at Hellingly, pro. 1802
                  + **Mary Coper,** m. 1729 at Hellingly, d. 1787 at Hellingly
                - **William Wenham,** b. c1711, d. 1799 at Hellingly
            - **Herbert Wenham,** b. 1696 at Hellingly, d. 1696 at Hellingly
            - **John Wenham,** bap. 1710 at Hellingly
            - **William Wenham,** b. 1713 at Hellingly
        - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1661 at Hailsham, d. 1739 at Hailsham
          + **Joan (--?--),** m. c1685, d. 1705 at Hailsham
            - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1686 at Hailsham, d. 1766 at Herstmonceux, pro. 1766
            - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1700 at Hailsham
              + **Elizabeth Hart,** m. 1718 at Selmeston, d. c1720 at Alfriston
                - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1719/20 at Alfriston, d. 1773 at Alfriston
                  + **Elizabeth (--?--),** m. c1754
                    - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1755 Alfriston, d. 1811 at Fletching
                      + **John Huggett,** bap. 1754 at Fletching, m. 1775 at Alfriston, d. 1833 at Fletching
                    - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1760 at Alfriston, d. 1796 at East Blatchington
                      + **Lydia Lower,** bap. 1759 at Alfriston, m. 1792 at Alfriston, d. 1822 at East Blatchington
                    - **Benjamin Akehurst,** bap. 1762 at Alfriston [*see Benjamin Akehurst note on next page*]
              + **Sarah Hart,** bap. 1695 at Hurstpierpoint, m. c1722, d. 1745 at Alfriston
                - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1727 at Alfriston, d. 1801 at Berwick
                  + **Elizabeth (--?--),** m. c1750, d. 1800 at Berwick
                    - **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1750 at Bishopstone
                      - **William Akehurst**, bap. 1774 at Alfriston (*illegitimate*)
                    + **Henry Machine,** m. 1774 at Alfriston
                    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1751 at Berwick, d. 1752 at Berwick
                    - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1753 at Berwick, d. 1753 at Berwick
                    - **John Akehurst,** b. c1755, d. 1828 at Alfriston
                      + **Ann Piper,** m. 1779 at Berwick, d. 1784 at Alfriston
                        - **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1780 at Alfriston
                        - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1782 at Alfriston, d. 1787 at Alfriston

+ **Elizabeth,** m. c1790 [*see note below* ][20]
**Benjamin Akehurst,** b. c1762, d. 1763 at Alfriston [*see note below*][21]
**Hannah Akehurst,** bap. 1765 at Alfriston
**William Henry Akehurst**, bap. 1784 at Berwick (*illegitimate*)
+ **Richard Avis,** m. 1787 at Berwick, d. 1784 at Alfriston
**George Akehurst,** bap. 1772 at Alfriston
**Joseph Akehurst,** bap. 1724 at Alfriston, d. 1799
+ **Frances (--?--),** b. c1730, m. c1752, d. after 1792
**Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1752 at Beddingham
**Richard Ford Akehurst**, bap. 1772 at Arlington (*possible illeg. son*)
+ **Mary Strutfield,** m. 1796 at Bishopstone
+ **John Henty,** m. 1773 at Beddingham
**Joseph Akehurst,** bap. 1757 at Beddingham, d. 1809 at West Firle
+ **Mary Stevens,** bap. 1730 at W.Firle, m. 1787 at W.Firle, d. 1790 at W.F. [*see note below*][22]
+ **Elizabeth Ellman,** b. c1770, m. 1792 at West Firle
**William Akehurst,** bap. 1762 at Beddingham
+ **Sarah Stevens,** m. 1795 at Mayfield
**Mary Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1797 at Mayfield
+ **(--?--) Nailard**
**Thomas Nailard Akehurst,** bap. 1823 at Burwash [*see note below* ][23, 24]
+ **Thomas Butchers,** m. 1830 at Burwash
**Hannah Akehurst,** bap. 1800 at Mayfield, bur. 1842 at Heathfield
+ **Thomas Weeks,** m. 1822 at Heathfield
**Frances Akehurst,** bap. 1807 at Mayfield, bur. 1838 at Burwash
+ **unknown spouse** [*see note below* ][25]
**James Akehurst,** b. c1831 at Burwash, bur. 1886 at Heathfield
+ **Ann Cornwell,** b. 1833 at Heathfield, m. 1850 at Heathfield
**Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1851 at Heathfield
**Frances Ann Akehurst,** b. c1855 at Heathfield
**Alfred Akehurst,** b. c1860 at Heathfield
**Stephen Akehurst,** b. c1831 at Burwash
+ **Sarah (--?--),** b. c1829 at Battle, m. c1860
+ **Jesse Fuller,** bap. 1796 at Burwash, m. 1835 at Burwash, bur. 1838 at Burwash
**Frances Akehurst,** bap. 1767 at Beddingham
**Sophia Akehurst**, bap. 1787 at West Firle, d. 1867 at Ringmer
+ **Edward Carey,** bap. 1779 at East Hoathly, m. 1804 at West Firle, d. 1861
+ **William Stephens,** bap. 1762 at West Firle, m. 1787 at West Firle
**Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1700 at Hailsham, d. 1700 at Hailsham

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[20] A settlement on 16 Jun 1791 suggests a second marriage for John Akehurst "William Akehurst of Berwick, husbandman, and his wife Elizabeth, his eldest son John Akehurst of Berwick, husbandman, and his wife Elizabeth…", (ESRO: SAS/G 49/1176).

[21] There is a baptism in the Sussex Baptisms Index for Benjamin Akehurst on 21 Nov 1762 at Alfriston son of John and Elizabeth Akehurst. Should this be William and Elizabeth as stated on Benjamin's burial? Note that John and Elizabeth were a valid couple in Alfriston at that time.

[22] Mary Stephens was a 57 year old widow when she married the 30 year old Joseph Akehurst in 1787, who appears to have not had children with either of his wives. Mary received a substantial inheritance in the will of her father George Stephens who died in 1778 at West Firle. She had been married to her cousin, Thomas Stephens, who died in 1778 at West Firle. Also married in 1787 was Mary's son William Stephens to Joseph's sister Frances Akehurst, and Mary's daughter Mary Stephens to John Fuller who is mentioned in Joseph Akehurst's will proved in 1810.

[23] The Will of Thomas Nailard of Heathfield, proved 17 Oct 1827, is important for constructing the family of William Akehurst and Sarah Stevens (ESRO: PBT 1/1/76/200). See Chapter 4.

[24] Thomas Nailard Akehurst is recorded as Thomas Naylor Akehurst in the Burwash baptism register.

[25] Although Frances Akehurst later married Jesse Fuller of Burwash, his will proved 8 Jul 1840 shows that he is not the father of Frances's two sons, James and Stephen (ESRO: PBT 1/1/80/423). See Chapter 4.

+ **Barbara Cobice,** m. 1708 at Hailsham, d. 1742 at Hailsham
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1662 at Hailsham, d. 1663 at Hailsham
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1662 at Hailsham, d. 1663 at Hailsham
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1664 at Hailsham
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1666 at Hailsham, d. 1666 at Hailsham
- **Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1668 at Hailsham

- **Margaret Akehurst,** bap. 1627 at Wilmington
- **Anne Akehurst,** bap. 1629 at Wilmington
- **Katherine Akehurst,** bap. 1631 at Wilmington
- **Joan Akehurst,** bap. 1632 at Wilmington
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1635 at Wilmington, d. 1709 at Hellingly, pro. 1709 [*of Grovehill*]

+ **Jane Godhelp,** bap. 1630 at Chalvington, m. 1657 at Waldron, bur. 1663 at Chalvington
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1661 at Hailsham, bur. 1664 at Hailsham
- **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1662 at Hailsham, bur. 1663 at Hailsham

+ **Elizabeth,** m. c1667, d. 1697 at Hellingly
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. 1668 at Hellingly
  + **John Medhurst,** m. 1688 at Hellingly, d. c1691
    - **John Medhurst,** bap. 1689 at Heathfield, d. 1689 at Hellingly
    - **William Medhurst,** b. c1691
  + **Edward Fricker,** m. 1692 at Hellingly
- **John Akehurst,** b. 1670 at Hellingly, d. 1673 at Hellingly
- **Ann Akehurst,** b. 1672 at Hellingly
- **Mary Akehurst,** b. 1673 at Hellingly
- **Joan Akehurst,** b. 1675 at Hellingly
  + **Edward Hook,** m. 1698 at Rotherfield
- **Susanna Akehurst,** b. 1678 at Hellingly, d. 1681 at Hellingly
- **Katherine Akehurst,** b. 1681 at Hellingly
  + **Thomas Day,** m. 1702 at Hellingly
- **Sarah Akehurst,** b. 1685 at Hellingly [*of Grovehill*]
- **Jane Akehurst,** b. 1690 at Hellingly

+ **Frances Curteis,** mlc. 1701 [*widow and widower, Frances of Heathfield; John of Hellingly*]

- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1636 at Wilmington
- **Ùrsula Akehurst,** bap. 1640 at Hailsham
+ **John Hubberden,** m. 1659 at Hellingly
- **Ales Akehurst,** bap. 1642 at Hailsham, bur. 1642 at Hailsham
- **Nicholas Akehurst,** bap. 1643 at Hailsham, bur. 1681 at Udimore

+ **Mary Duke,** m. 1672 at Brede, bur. 1681 at Udimore
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1672 at Udimore
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1675 at Udimore [*see notes in Tree 11.*]
- **Andrew Akehurst,** bap. 1678 at Udimore
  + **Martha Paris,** m. 1710 at Berwick
    - **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1711 at Hailsham
    - **Martha Akehurst,** bap. 1716 at Hailsham

- **Patience Akehurst,** bap. 1646 at Hailsham
+ **Robert Gorrens,** m. 1673 at Lewes

- **Martha Akehurst,** bap. 1602 at Hailsham
+ **Elias Swaine,** m. 1627 at Wilmington
- **Nicholas Akehurst,** bap. 1607 at Hailsham, d. 1607 at Hailsham

## Tree 5A. John Akehurst and Elizabeth Fuller of Hellingly

**John Akehurst,** b. c1725 at Hellingly?, d. 1777 at Hellingly, pro. 1783
+ **Elizabeth Fuller,** m. 1751 at Hellingly, d. 1777 at Hellingly
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1752 at Hellingly, d. 1831 at Hellingly, pro. 1832
  + **Lucy Rippington,** bap. 1747 at Chiddingly, m. 1779 at Chiddingly, d. 1833 at Hellingly
- **James Akehurst,** bap. 1755 at Hellingly
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1757 at Hellingly, d. 1822 at Mayfield
  + **Jane Burt,** b. c1769, m. 1788 at Mayfield, d. 1805 at Mayfield
    - **Maria Akehurst,** bap. 1793 at Mayfield
    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1800 at Etchingham
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1802 at Etchingham
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1760 at Hellingly, d. 1809 at Hellingly
  + **Hannah Delves,** bap. 1762 at Hailsham, m. 1789 at Hailsham, d. 1840 at Hellingly
    - **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1790 at Hellingly
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1792 at Hellingly
    - **James Akehurst,** bap. 1794 at Hellingly
      + **Elizabeth Simons,** m. 1815 at Marylebone, MDX
      + **Sarah Barnes,** m. 1838 at Paddington, LND
        - **William Akehurst,** b. 1840 at London, MDX, d. 1920 at Bendigo, VIC
          + **Mary Thompson,** b. 1842, m. c1860, d. 1912
            - **William Akehurst,** b. 1861 at Marylebone, LND, d. 1937 at Prahran, VIC
              + **Florence Adnum Jennings,** b. 1859, m. c1885, d. 1936
                - **Constance Sarah Akehurst,** b. 1885 at Prahran, VIC, d. 1970 at Prahran, VIC
                  + **George Evans,** b. 1884, m. 1912 at VIC, d. 1955
                    - **Kenneth George Evans,** b. 1919 at Deniliquin, NSW, d. 2005 at Melbourne
    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1796 at Hellingly
    - **George Akehurst,** bap. 1798 at Hellingly
    - **Harriet Akehurst,** bap. 1801 at Hellingly, d. 1876 at Battle
      + **Charles Claridge Farra,** b. c1797 at Westminster, MDX, m. 1823 at Brighton, d. 1872 at Battle
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1803 at Hellingly, d. 1804 at Hellingly
    - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1805 at Hellingly
      + **Sarah Cramp,** b. c1799 at Heathfield, m. 1821 at Hellingly
- **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1765 at Hellingly, d. 1827 at Pevensey
  + **Elizabeth Christian,** m. 1789 at Pevensey
    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. 1790 at Pevensey
    - **Lucy Akehurst,** b. 1791 at Pevensey
      + **David Jarrett,** m. 1818 at Bexhill
    - **Maria Akehurst,** b. 1792 at Pevensey
    - **Naomi Akehurst,** bap. 1794 at Pevensey, d. 1843 at Hailsham
      + **John Crowhurst,** m. 1816 at Hailsham, d. 1854 at Hailsham
    - **Orpah Akehurst,** b. 1796 at Pevensey
    - **John Akehurst,** b. 1798 at Pevensey, d. 1875 at Pevensey
      + **Mary Woods,** m. 1821 at Westham
        - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. 1822 at Pevensey
        - **Aaron Akehurst,** b. 1825 at Pevensey, d. 1886 at Eastbourne
          + **Jane Cornford,** m. 1860 at Pevensey
        - **Harriet Akehurst,** b. 1829 at Pevensey
        - **Samuel Akehurst,** b. 1835 at Pevensey
        - **Mary Akehurst,** b. 1835 at Pevensey
        - **John Akehurst,** b. 1838 at Pevensey
    - **Harriet Akehurst,** b. 1801 at Pevensey

**Louisa Akehurst,** b. 1803 at Pevensey
**William Akehurst,** b. 1806 at Pevensey
**Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1769 at Hellingly, d. 1818 at Hellingly, pro. 1818

Notes:

This tree hits a brick wall with the birth of John Akehurst c1725. Although there is a candidate baptism (John Akehurst bap. 22 Nov 1720 at Hellingly, son of Richard and Elizabeth) there is another John Akehurst's who this could be, namely, the John Akehurst who married Elizabeth Burwash on 24 Jun 1751 at Hellingly.

There are two marriages of a John Akehurst to an Elizabeth in 1751 at Hellingly:

a) John Akehurst m. Elizabeth BURWASH on 24 Jun 1751
b) John Akehurst m. Elizabeth FULLER on 14 Nov 1751

There were subsequently two baptisms of a child John Akehurst at Hellingly:

a) John Akehurst bap. 19 Dec 1751 son of John and Elizabeth
b) John Akehurst bap. 4 Oct 1752 son of John and Elizabeth.

This has caused enormous confusion in this tree. However, it is considered that the best match is for the earlier baptism to be from the earlier marriage.

The next problem is that each of the John Akehursts baptisms resulted in two separate families in Hellingly. The burial of John Akehurst of Hellingly who married Lucy RIPPINGTON in 1779 at Chiddingly gives his age 78 years at burial on 17 Dec 1831. This implies a birth date between 18 Dec 1751 and 17 Dec 1752 which would agree with the 1752 baptism and hence give Elizabeth FULLER as his mother. Unfortunately the burial of the other John Akehurst on 14 apr 1829 age 78 years is not as helpful as it would imply a birth between 15 Apr 1750 and 14 Apr 1751 which is before both marriages. However, it does suggest he was older than the other John which is consistent with assuming he was from the earlier marriage.

Once the above assumptions are made, the details in the will of John Akehurst (c1725-1777) who married Elizabeth FULLER and the later will of his son, John Akehurst (1752-1831) who married Lucy RIPPINGTON, allow their families to be connected and so produce the family tree shown above.

Just to complete the picture, the other couple (John Akehurst and Elizabeth BURWASH) were both dead by 1755 leaving their son John Akehurst an orphan. The poor law records for Hellingly show that in 1757 he was taken in by Thomas Lucas who ultimately agreed to keep him for 10 years and teach him his trade, being a tailor.[26] He was later to marry Elizabeth COLLIN in 1776 and then Maria BURGESS in 1797 and have a large family at Hellingly. The author descends from this line.

[26] Parish registers and poor law records for Hellingly, 1618-1882. www.familysearch.org (film no: 1067205; images: 190-195)

## Tree 5B. John Akehurst and Elizabeth Burwash of Hellingly

The following tree is presented as a complement to the Hellingly Tree 5A as both trees have been the subject of much debate. The John Akehurst (1751-1829) of this tree was orphaned at about age 4 years and consequently this tree represents the poorer relatives of the Akehursts in the tree above! The Hellingly poor law records contain details of his care as an orphan and subsequent adoption by Thomas Lucas and apprenticehip as a tailor.[27] There are no Akehurst wills found for this tree. See the Notes section at the end of Tree 5A for more information.

**John Akehurst,** b. c1725, d. 1754 at Hellingly
+ **Elizabeth Burwash,** b. c1730, m. 1751 at Hellingly, d. 1755 at Hellingly
└── **John Akehurst,** bap. 1751 at Hellingly, d. 1829 at Hellingly
+ **Elizabeth Collin,** b. c1756, m. 1776 at Hellingly, d. 1792 at Hellingly
├── **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1777 at Hellingly
│ └── **Jane Kennard Akehurst,** bap. 1799 at Hellingly, d. 1819 at Hellingly
├── **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1780 at Hellingly, d. 1860 at Brighton
+ **Samuel Saxby,** b. c1774 at Battle, m. 1800 at Hellingly, d. 1861 at Brighton
├── **Samuel Saxby,** bap. 1800 at Hellingly
+ **Achsah Wren,** bap. 1806 at Isfield, m. 1826 at Brighton
└── **William Wren Saxby,** b. c1823 at Lewes
└── **William Saxby,** bap. 1802 at Hellingly
├── **John Akehurst,** bap. 1783 at Hellingly
├── **John Akehurst,** bap. 1786 at Hellingly
├── **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1786 at Hellingly
├── **John Akehurst,** bap. 1789 at Hellingly
└── **William Akehurst,** bap. 1792 at Hellingly
+ **Maria Burgess,** bap. 1778 at Hellingly, m. 1798 at Hellingly, d. 1862 at Icklesham
├── **Jane Burgess,** bap. 1797 at Hellingly, d. 1858 at Hellingly
+ **Richard Funnell,** b. 1794 at Chiddingly, m. 1816 at Lewes, d. 1858 at Chiddingly
├── **Henry Funnell,** bap. 1816 at Hellingly
├── **Sophia Funnell,** b. 1818 at Chiddingly, d. 1885 at Hailsham
+ **unknown spouse**
└── **Henry Funnell,** bap. 1836 at Chiddingly, d. 1837 at Chiddingly
+ **John Grayling,** b. c1803 at Arlington, m. 1837 at Laughton, d. 1872 at Hailsham
├── **John Grayling,** bap. 1840 at Arlington
├── **James Grayling,** bap. 1842 at Arlington
├── **Peter Grayling,** bap. 1845 at Arlington
├── **Harriet Grayling,** bap. 1847 at The Dicker
├── **Ebenezer Grayling,** bap. 1849 at The Dicker
├── **Elizabeth Ann Grayling,** bap. 1851 at The Dicker, d. 1910
└── **Philadelphia Grayling,** bap. 1856 at The Dicker
├── **Richard Funnell,** b. 1820 at Chiddingly
├── **Jane Funnell,** b. 1822 at East Hoathly
├── **John Funnell,** b. 1824 at East Hoathly, d. 1844 at Chiddingly
├── **Anne Funnell,** bap. 1826 at Chiddingly, d. 1845 at Chiddingly
├── **Eleanor Funnell,** bap. 1828 at Chiddingly, d. 1910 at Framfield
+ **William Morris,** bap. 1825 at Framfield, m. 1846 at Uckfield, d. 1900 at Framfield
├── **Emma Morris,** b. 1847 at Framfield, d. 1895 at Hailsham
├── **Silas Morris,** b. 1849 at Uckfield, d. 1912 at Brighton
+ **Martha Jeffery,** b. 1839 at Pilt Down, m. 1869 at Little Horsted, d. 1922 at Lewes

[27] Parish registers and poor law records for Hellingly, 1618-1882. www.familysearch.org (film no: 1067205; images: 190-195)

- **Ann Morris,** b. 1850 at Framfield
- **Maria Morris,** b. 1852 at Framfield, d. 1876 at Uckfield
- **Amos Morris,** b. 1854 at Framfield, d. 1908 at Uckfield
- **Elizabeth Morris,** b. c1856 at Framfield
- **Mary Morris,** b. 1858 at Framfield, d. 1907 at Uckfield
- **Fanny Morris,** b. 1860 at Framfield, d. 1922 at Brighton
- **Ruth Morris,** b. 1862 at Framfield, d. 1945 at Worthing
- **William Morris,** bap. 1864 at Framfield, d. 1864 at Uckfield
- **Henry Morris,** b. 1870 at Framfield, d. 1870 at Uckfield
- **Rose Ellen Morris,** b. 1865 at Framfield, d. 1930 at Newhaven
- **Lucy Martha Morris,** b. 1868 at Framfield, d. 1954 at Uckfield

+ **Thomas William Burgess,** b. 1875 at Brighton, m. 1905 at Framfield

- **Harriet Funnell,** bap. 1831 at Chiddingly, d. 1844 at Chiddingly
- **Benjamin Funnell,** bap. 1833 at Chiddingly
- **Elizabeth Funnell,** bap. 1835 at Chiddingly, d. 1844 at Chiddingly
- **Phillis Funnell,** bap. 1837 at Chiddingly, d. 1920 at Guestling

+ **Samuel Rootes,** bap. 1829 at Beckley, m. 1860 at Eastbourne, d. 1880 at Guestling

- **Florence Rootes,** b. 1874 at Guestling, d. 1952 at Fairlight
- **Ann Rootes,** b. 1860 at Eastbourne, d. 1935 at Hastings
- **Charlotte Rootes,** b. 1862 at Eastbourne, d. 1934 at Hastings
- **George Rootes,** b. 1864 at Guestling, d. 1916 at Guestling
- **Fanny Rootes,** b. 1866 at Guestling, d. 1943 at Canterbury, KEN
- **Thomas Rootes,** b. 1867 at Guestling, d. 1949 at Lancaster, PA, USA
- **Frederick Rootes,** b. 1869 at Guestling, d. 1949 at Guestling
- **Samuel Ernest Rootes,** b. 1871 at Guestling, d. 1960 at Guestling
- **Katherine Rootes,** b. 1873, d. 1960
- **Harry Rootes,** b. 1878
- **John Rootes,** b. 1880 at Guestling, d. 1964 at Guestling

- **Mary Funnell,** bap. 1840 at Chiddingly

+ **George Banks,** b. c1836 at Little Horsted, m. 1862 at Little Horsted

- **Thomas Banks,** b. c1863 at Little Horsted
- **Naomi Banks,** b. c1865 at Little Horsted
- **George Banks,** b. c1867 at Little Horsted
- **Edwin Banks,** b. c1869 at Little Horsted
- **Benjamin Banks,** b. c1871 at Little Horsted
- **Annie Banks,** b. c1873 at Little Horsted
- **Elizabeth Banks,** b. c1875 at Little Horsted
- **Rebecca Banks,** b. c1877 at Little Horsted
- **Amos Banks,** b. c1878 at Little Horsted
- **Mary Banks,** b. c1882 at Little Horsted

- **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1799 at Hellingly

+ **John Wright,** m. 1819 at Hellingly

- **Harriet Akehurst,** bap. 1802 at Hellingly, d. 1835 at Icklesham

+ **Philip Sargent,** b. c1805 at Icklesham, mlc. 1824, d. 1893 at Icklesham

- **Henry Sargent,** bap. 1824 at Eastbourne, d. 1837 at Icklesham
- **Maria Sargent,** bap. 1828 at Icklesham

+ **unknown spouse**

- **Henry Stone Sargent,** bap. 1847 at Icklesham, d. 1847 at Icklesham
- **Harriet Stone Sargent,** bap. 1848 at Icklesham
- **Sarah Maria Sargent,** bap. 1851 at Icklesham

+ **Henry Hall,** m. 1852 at Battle

- **George Thomas Sargent,** bap. 1831 at Icklesham, d. 1914 at Ditton nr Maidstone, KEN

+ **Caroline Monk,** b. c1832 at Northiam, m. 1855 at Tenterden, KEN

- **Harriet Sargent,** b. c1856 at Wittersham, KEN
- **Mary Ann Sargent,** b. c1860 at Wittersham, KEN
- **James Sargent,** b. 1863 at East Malling, KEN, d. 1884 at Malling, KEN
- **George Sargent,** b. c1865 at East Malling, KEN, d. 1953 at Maidstone, KEN

**James Sargent,** bap. 1834 at Icklesham, d. 1896 at Icklesham
+ **Emma Paine,** b. 1837 at Northiam, m. 1855 at Icklesham, d. 1859
- **Agnes Emma Sargent,** bap. 1856 at Icklesham
- **Francis Sargent,** bap. 1858 at Icklesham
- **Philip Sargent,** bap. 1859 at Icklesham, d. 1937 at Icklesham

+ **Sarah Ann Barden,** b. c1847, m. 1867 at Icklesham, d. 1883 at Icklesham

**Martha Akehurst,** bap. 1804 at Hellingly, d. 1854 at Bulli, NSW
+ **James Holden,** bap. 1804 at Hellingly, m. 1826 at Hellingly, d. 1892 at Moruya, NSW
- **Sarah Mariah Holden,** bap. 1826 at Hellingly, d. 1899 at Tinonee, NSW
+ **John Walter Walters**
- **James William Holden,** b. 1840 at Paterson River, NSW, d. 1929 at Ross Glen, NSW

+ **Thomas Myers,** b. 1814 at Leeds, YKS, m. 1843 at Dungog, NSW, d. 1872 at Dungog
- **Frederick Myers,** b. 1850 at Williams River, NSW, d. 1925 at Cobbity, NSW
- **Martha Maria Myers,** b. 1852 at Dungog, NSW, d. 1925 at Sydney, NSW
- **Harriet Maude Myers,** b. 1854 at Patterson River, NSW, d. 1934 at Bellinger R., NSW
- **Eliza Frances Jeannie Myers,** b. 1860 at Dungog, NSW, d. 1900 at Dungog, NSW

+ **Thomas Dawson,** b. 1820 at Hastings, m. 1893 at Taree, NSW
- **Harriet Holden,** bap. 1834 at Rye, d. 1863 at Dungog, NSW
+ **Joseph Eales,** b. c1822 at Bristol, GLS, m. 1849 at Maitland, NSW, d. 1883 at Balgownie
- **Jane Anne Holden,** bap. 1837 at Rye, d. 1838
- **Charlotte Holden,** b. 1840 at Sydney, NSW, d. 1915 at Moruya, NSW
+ **George Henry Goodin,** bap. 1828 at Lowesby, LEI, m. 1861 at Bulli, NSW, d. 1889 Sydney

**William Akehurst,** bap. 1808 at Hellingly, d. 1840 at Hellingly
+ **Harriet Winchester,** b. c1804, m. 1832 at Hellingly, d. 1855 at Uckfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1832 at Hellingly, d. 1840 at Hellingly
- **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1836 at Hellingly
+ **Ruth Pitcher,** b. c1838, m. 1857 at Hellingly
- **James Akehurst,** bap. 1838 at Hellingly

## Tree 6. Samuel Akehurst of Brighton

On 17 May 2020 this tree was incorporated into Tree 3 "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" following the discovery of the baptism of Thomas ACKHURST on 19 Feb 1748/49 at Eastbourne St Mary, son of John ACKHURST and Ann.

## Tree 7. John Akehurst and Susannah Pollington of Herstmonceux

**John Akehurst,** b. c1680
+ **Susanna Pollington,** bap. 1680 at Hellingly, m. 1706 at Hellingly
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1707 at Herstmonceux
- **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1710 at Herstmonceux
- **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1713 at Herstmonceux
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1716 at Herstmonceux
- **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1719 at Herstmonceux, d. 1788 at Hellingly
  + **Charlotte Vine,** b. c1717, m. 1751 at Herstmonceux
  - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1752 at Herstmonceux, d. 1836 at Hellingly
    + **Hannah Gower,** bap. 1751 at Hellingly, m. 1774 at Hailsham, d. 1840 at Hellingly
    - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1774 at Hellingly
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1776 at Hellingly, d. 1851 at Laughton
      + **Sarah French**, b. c1772, m. 1799 at Chiddingly, d. 1851 at Laughton
      - **Mary Akehurst**, bap. 1802 at Laughton, d. 1803 at Laughton
      - **Caroline Akehurst**, bap. 1810 at Laughton, d. 1811 at Laughton
      - **John Akehurst**, bap. 1812 at Laughton, d. 1851 at Laughton
        + **Mary Ann Gammon**, bap. 1817 at Bexhill, m. 1839 at Capel, SRY, d. 1890 at Laughton
        - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1840 at Chiddingly, d. 1923 at Hailsham, pro. 1923
          + **Mary Hall,** b. c1839 at Laughton, m. 1869 at Laughton
        - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1842 at Chiddingly, d. 1906 at Eastbourne
          + **James Hall,** b. c1846 at Laughton, m. 1864 at Uckfield
        - **Harriet Akehurst,** bap. 1844 at Chiddingly, bur. 1854 at Laughton
        - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1846 at Laughton, d. 1910 at Hailsham
        - **Frances Akehurst,** bap. 1849 at Chiddingly
        - **Owen Akehurst,** bap. 1849 at Chiddingly, d. 1939 at Wyoming, NY, USA
        - **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1850 at Laughton, d. 1924 at Hailsham
          + **William Hall,** b. c1851 at Laughton, m. 1868 at Laughton
    - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1777 at Hellingly
      + **Mary Smith,** m. 1798 at Hellingly, d. 1815 at Hellingly
      - **Sophia Akehurst,** bap. 1804 at Hellingly
        + **Edward Millar,** m. 1825 at South Malling
      - **James Akehurst,** bap. 1806 at Hellingly
      - **Anna Maria Akehurst,** bap. 1808 at Hellingly
      - **Keturah Akehurst,** bap. 1810 at Hellingly
      - **Mary Anna Akehurst,** bap. 1813 at Hellingly
      - **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1815 at Hellingly
      + **Elizabeth King,** bap. 1795 at Willingdon, m. 1818 at Hellingly, d. 1822 at Hellingly
      - **Harriet Akehurst,** bap. 1820 at Hellingly
      - **George Akehurst,** b. 1821 at Hellingly
    - **Anna Akehurst,** bap. 1779 at Hellingly
    - **Hannah Akehurst,** bap. 1781 at Hellingly

+ **George Horton**
└── **George Horton Akehurst,** b. 1800 at Hellingly, d. 1882 at Hellingly [illegitimate]
+ **Jane Sharrard,** bap. 1802 at Hellingly, m. 1823 at Hellingly
├── **Charlotte Akehurst,** bap. 1783 at Hellingly
+ **William Elliott,** b. 1772 at Chiddingly, m. 1803 at Chiddingly, d. 1831 at Chiddingly
├── **Mary Elliott,** bap. 1804 at Chiddingly, d. 1834 at Chiddingly
├── **Stephen Elliott,** bap. 1806 at Chiddingly
+ **Sarah Divall,** b. c1808 at Uckfield, m. 1826 at Uckfield
├── **Alfred Elliott,** bap. 1808 at Chiddingly
├── **Jane Elliott,** bap. 1811 at Chiddingly, d. 1811 at Chiddingly
└── **Matthew Elliott,** bap. 1816 at Chiddingly
├── **Shem Akehurst,** bap. 1785 at Hellingly, d. 1859 at Hellingly
+ **Frances Smith,** b. 1793 at Chiddingly, m. 1816 at Hellingly
├── **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1816 at Hellingly
├── **Shem Akehurst,** bap. 1818 at Hellingly, d. 1836 at Hellingly
├── **George Akehurst,** bap. 1820 at Hellingly
+ **Ann Fowler,** b. c1820 at Pevensey, m. 1843 at Hellingly
├── **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1822 at Hellingly
├── **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1826 at Hellingly, d. 1829 at Hellingly
├── **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1829 at Hellingly
├── **Charlotte Akehurst,** bap. 1832 at Hellingly
└── **Caroline Akehurst,** bap. 1834 at Hellingly
├── **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1787 at Hellingly
+ **Samuel Thunder,** bap. 1780 at Hellingly, m. 1807 at Hellingly, d. 1850 at Hellingly
├── **Harriet Thunder,** bap. 1807 at Chiddingly
├── **Simon Thunder,** bap. 1810 at Chiddingly
├── **Alfred Thunder,** b. 1812 at Hailsham
├── **William Thunder,** bap. 1815 at Hailsham
├── **Caroline Thunder,** bap. 1817 at Hellingly, d. 1834 at Hellingly
├── **George Thunder,** bap. 1821 at Hellingly, d. 1859 at Hellingly
├── **Henry Thunder,** bap. 1825 at Hellingly, d. c1825
└── **Sarah Emily Thunder,** bap. 1828 at Hellingly
+ **Thomas Weeks,** m. c1850
├── **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1788 at Hellingly, d. 1859 at Hellingly
+ **Frances Page,** b. c1790 at East Hoathly, m. 1810 at Laughton, d. 1862 at Hellingly
├── **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1811 at Hellingly, d. 1879 at Herstmonceux
+ **Emily [Emma] Elphick,** bap. 1811 at Wartling, m. 1832 at Lewes, d. 1862 at Hellingly
├── **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1833 at Hellingly
├── **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1834 at Hellingly
├── **Albert Akehurst,** bap. 1836 at Hellingly
├── **Emily Frances Akehurst,** bap. 1839 at Hellingly
├── **James Akehurst,** bap. 1842 at Hellingly
├── **Caroline Akehurst,** bap. 1846 at Hellingly
├── **William Charles Akehurst,** bap. 1848 at Hellingly
└── **Reuben Akehurst,** bap. 1853 at Herstmonceux, d. 1863 at Hellingly
+ **Eliza Payne,** bap. 1843 at Heathfield, m. 1863 at Hailsham, d. 1915 at East Grinstead
├── **Sarah Elizabeth Payne Akehurst,** b. c1864 at Herstmonceux
├── **John Henry Akehurst,** b. c1870 at Hellingly
├── **Thomas Asher Akehurst,** b. c1840 at Herstmonceux
└── **George H Akehurst,** b. c1873 at Herstmonceux
├── **William Akehurst,** bap. 1813 at Hellingly
+ **Eliza Wratten,** b. c1812, m. 1837 at Hellingly, d. 1856 at Hellingly
├── **William Akehurst,** bap. 1837 at Hellingly, bur. 1837 at Hellingly

- **Alfred Akehurst,** bap. 1838 at Hellingly
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1840 at Hellingly, bur. 1841 at Hellingly
- **Alec Akehurst,** b. 1851 at Hellingly, d. 1927 at Ticehurst
- **Harriet Akehurst,** b. 1852 at Hellingly, bur. 1852 at Hellingly

- **Mary Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1816 at Hellingly, d. 1887 at Lewes
  + **unknown spouse**
    - **Edwin Akehurst,** bap. 1840 at Hellingly
  + **George Weeks,** b. 1817 at Buxted, m. 1842 at Lewes, d. 1863 at Lewes
- **Frances Akehurst,** bap. 1819 at Hellingly
- **Edwin Akehurst,** bap. 1825 at Hellingly

- **Caroline Akehurst,** bap. 1789 at Hellingly, d. 1790 at Hellingly
- **Mary Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1791 at Hellingly
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1792 at Hellingly
  + **Jane Baker,** bap. 1809 at Hellingly, m. 1831 at Hellingly
    - **Mary Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1831 at Hellingly
      - **James Akehurst,** bap. 1850 at Hellingly [*illegitimate*]
    + **Henry Hope,** m. 1853 at Hailsham
    - **Charlotte Akehurst,** bap. 1833 at Hellingly
    - **Mary Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1831 at Hellingly
    - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1846 at Hellingly
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1848 at Hellingly

- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1753 at Herstmonceux, d. 1835 at Herstmonceux
  + **Sarah Funnell,** m. 1775 at Hellingly, d. 1796 at Herstmonceux
    - **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1775 at Herstmonceux, d. 1851 at Hellingly
      + **James Holden,** b. c1773, m. 1799 at Hellingly, d. 1812 at Hellingly
        - **John Holden,** bap. 1801 at Hellingly, d. 1859 at Hellingly
        + **Ann Cornford,** m. 1826 at Hellingly
        - **Sarah Holden,** bap. 1802 at Hellingly
        - **James Holden,** bap. 1804 at Hellingly, d. 1892 at Moruya, NSW
        + **Martha Akehurst,** bap. 1804 at Hellingly, m. 1826 at Hellingly, d. 1854 at Bulli, NSW
          - **Sarah Mariah Holden,** bap. 1826 at Hellingly, d. 1899 at Tinonee, NSW
            + **John Walter Walters**
              - **James William Holden,** b. 1840 at Paterson River, NSW, d. 1929 at NSW
            + **Thomas Myers,** b. 1814 at Leeds, YKS, m. 1843 at Dungog, NSW, d. 1872 NSW
              - **Frederick Myers,** b. 1850 at Williams River, NSW, d. 1925 at Cobbity, NSW
              - **Martha Maria Myers,** b. 1852 at Dungog, NSW, d. 1925 at Sydney, NSW
              - **Harriet Maude Myers,** b. 1854 at Patterson River, NSW, d. 1934 NSW
              - **Eliza Frances Jeannie Myers,** b. 1860 at Dungog, NSW, d. 1900 at Dungog
            + **Thomas Dawson,** b. 1820 at Hastings, m. 1893 at Taree, NSW
          - **Harriet Holden,** bap. 1834 at Rye, d. 1863 at Dungog, NSW
            + **Joseph Eales,** b. c1822 at Bristol, GLS, m. 1849 at Maitland, NSW, d. 1883 NSW
          - **Jane Anne Holden,** bap. 1837 at Rye, d. 1838
          - **Charlotte Holden,** b. 1840 at Sydney, NSW, d. 1915 at Moruya, NSW
            + **George Henry Goodin,** bap. 1828 at Lowesby, LEI, m. 1861 at Bulli, NSW
        - **Harriet Holden,** bap. 1805 at Hellingly
        - **Frances Holden,** bap. 1806 at Hellingly
        - **Phyllis Holden,** bap. 1808 at Hellingly
        - **Jane Holden,** bap. 1810 at Hellingly
        - **Charlotte Holden,** bap. 1811 at Hellingly, d. 1819 at Hellingly
    - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1777 at Herstmonceux
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1779 at Herstmonceux, d. 1855 at Wartling
      + **Ann Collins,** b. c1784 at Wartling, m. 1802 at Wartling, d. 1862 at Wartling

- **Mary Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1803 at Wartling
- **Jane Akehurst,** b. c1805 at Wartling
- **Charlotte Akehurst,** b. 1809 at Wartling
- **Naomi Akehurst,** bap. 1813 at Herstmonceux
  - + **Thomas Pullinger,** m. 1839 at Wadhurst
- **Orpha Akehurst,** bap. 1816 at Herstmonceux
  - + **Thomas Crowhurst,** b. c1805 at Uckfield, m. 1837 at Wartling
- **Emily Akehurst,** bap. 1819 at Herstmonceux
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1780 at Herstmonceux
- **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1782 at Herstmonceux, d. 1852 at Herstmonceux
  - + **Hannah Russell,** bap. 1782 at Chiddingly, m. 1807 at Little Horsted, d. 1862 at Hailsham
  - **Phillis Akehurst,** b. c1809 at Warbleton
    - + **Samuel Hayward,** b. c1807 at Herstmonceux, m. c1844
- **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1784 at Herstmonceux
- **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1786 at Herstmonceux
- **Charles Akehurst,** bap. 1787 at Herstmonceux, d. 1832
  - + **Ruth Frost,** m. 1810 at Herstmonceux
- **Charles Akehurst,** b. c1811
- **John Akehurst,** b. c1813
- **Henry Akehurst,** b. c1814
- **David Akehurst,** bap. 1823 at Hellingly
  - + **Mary Ann Price,** m. 1845 at Baltimore, MD, USA
  - **Martha Akehurst,** b. 1861 at USA
- **Philadelphia (Phillis) Akehurst,** bap. 1789 at Herstmonceux, d. 1859 at Warbleton
  - + **John Oxley,** m. 1814 at Lewes, d. 1836 at Warbleton
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1791 at Herstmonceux
- **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1795 at Herstmonceux, d. 1796 at Herstmonceux
- **Charlington (Sharlington) Akehurst,** bap. 1756 at Herstmonceux, d. 1840 at Herstmonceux
  - + **Sarah Sands,** b. 1767 at Herstmonceux, m. 1790 at Herstmonceux, d. 1844 at Herstmonceux
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1791 at Herstmonceux
- **Fanny Akehurst,** bap. 1793 at Herstmonceux
- **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1794 at Herstmonceux
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1796 at Herstmonceux
  - + **Jane Hall,** m. 1819 at Ewhurst
  - **Margaret Akehurst,** bap. 1820 at Ewhurst
- **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1798 at Herstmonceux
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1800 at Herstmonceux, d. 1802 at Herstmonceux
- **Charles Akehurst,** bap. 1802 at Herstmonceux
- **Harriet Akehurst,** bap. 1804 at Herstmonceux
- **Charlotte Akehurst,** bap. 1758 at Herstmonceux, d. 1833 at Heathfield
  - + **William Wenham,** bap. 1756 at Waldron, m. 1784 at Herstmonceux
- **Fanny Akehurst,** bap. 1784 at Herstmonceux
- **Mary Wenham,** bap. 1785 at Herstmonceux
- **Sarah Wenham,** bap. 1787 at Herstmonceux
- **James Wenham,** bap. 1789 at Herstmonceux
- **Henry Wenham,** bap. 1791 at Herstmonceux
- **Stephen Wenham,** bap. 1794 at Herstmonceux
- **Joseph Wenham,** bap. 1796 at Herstmonceux
- **Susannah Akehurst,** bap. 1723 at Herstmonceux
  - + **William Vine,** bap. 1721 at Laughton, m. 1752 at Chiddingly
- **William Vine,** bap. 1753 at Hellingly
  - + **Mary Duly,** m. 1771 at Wilmington
- **John Vine,** bap. 1754 at Hellingly, d. c1832

+ **Mary Streeter,** m. 1778 at Ringmer
└── **William Vine,** bap. 1791 at Wilmington, d. 1857 at East Dean
└── **James Vine,** bap. 1756 at Hellingly, d. 1757 at Hellingly

## Tree 8. Folkington & Jevington

**father Akehurst**
**+unknown spouse**

- **John Akehurst,** b. c1560, d. 1613 at Folkington
  - + **Jane Akehurst,** b. c1550, m. c1585, d. 1615 at Folkington
    - **Raffe Akehurst,** b. c1590, d. 1654 at Lewes
      - + **Letticia (--?--),** m. c1620, d. 1631 at Lewes
        - **Alexander Akehurst,** b. c1620
        - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. c1625
        - **Raphe Akehurst,** b. c1625, d. 1666 at Dublin?, Ireland?
          - + **Mary Baker,** b. c1635 at Hastings, m. 1653 at Warbleton, d. 1691
            - **Raphe Akehurst,** b. c1655 at Lewes
            - **Samuel Akehurst,** b. c1657 at Lewes, d. 1679 at Lewes
            - **Alexander Akehurst,** b. c1659 at Lewes, d. 1683 at Lewes
            - **John Akehurst,** b. c1661 at Lewes, d. 1672 at Lewes
            - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1664 at Lewes
            - **Mary Akehurst,** b. c1665 at Lewes
        - **Lettitia Akehurst,** b. c1630
      - + **Mary Godman,** mlc. 1640 (Archdeaconry of Lewes)
    - **Joan Akehurst,** b. c1592
    - **Ann Akehurst,** b. c1595
  - **Edward Akehurst,** b. c1565, d. 1607 at Jevington
    - + **Mary Wimshurst,** m. 1587 at Warbleton
      - **Edward Akehurst,** b. c1590, d. 1638 at Jevington
        - + **Sarah Bartholomew,** m. 1625 at Folkington, d. c1669
          - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1627 at Folkington
          - **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1633 at Folkington
          - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1636 at Folkington, d. 1637 at Folkington
          - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1638 at Folkington
            - + **Sarah (--?--),** m. c1660, d. 1673 at Folkington
              - **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1663 at Folkington
              - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1665 at Folkington
            - + **Mary (--?--),** m. c1670
              - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1678 at Folkington, d. 1740 at Folkington
                - + **Mary Newington,** m. 1707 at Folkington, d. 1712 at Folkington
                  - **Joanna Akehurst,** bap. 1710 at Folkington
                - + **Katherine Kingswood,** m. 1713 at Willingdon, d. 1734 at Folkington
                  - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1714 at Folkington
                  - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1717 at Folkington
      - **Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1595, d. 1662 at Jevington
        - + **Mary Page,** bap. 1615 at East Blatchington, m. 1639 at East Blatchington
          - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1640 at Jevington
          - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1642 at Jevington
        - + **Susan Hollands,** m. 1643 at Eastbourne

Note that William Wade was a surety on both the admon of John Akehurst (d. 1613) and Edward Akehurst (d. 1607) providing further confidence that they are the brothers mentioned in the admon of Edward Akehurst in 1607.

And, just to confuse matters, there was a second John Akehurst in this area:

**John Akehurst,** d. 1616 at Jevington
+ **Elizabeth (--?--)**

Could this John Akehurst be an unrecorded son of Edward Akehurst and Mary Wimshurst, born c1588? Possible remarriage for Elizabeth on 30 Jul 1621 at Jevington to Walter Woollet.

## Tree 9. Rotherfield and Wadhurst

Although not containing any wills, this is an important Akehurst tree. The will of Jonas Akeherst of Hellingly, 1613/14 provides the following legacy: "I give to **Willam Akeherst** sonne of **John Akeherst** of Wadherst one ewe & one lambe", suggesting that the origins of this line go back to Hellingly.

**John Akehurst,** b. c1620, d. 1683 at Rotherfield
+ **Mary Whit,** b. c1620, m. 1642 at Rotherfield, d. 1644 at Rotherfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1643 at Rotherfield, d. 1643 at Rotherfield
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1644 at Rotherfield, d. 1645 at Rotherfield

+ **Deborah (--?--),** b. c1625, m. c1648, d. 1693 at Rotherfield
- **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1649 at Rotherfield, d. 1649 at Rotherfield
- **Deborah Akehurst,** bap. 1651 at Rotherfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1656 at Rotherfield, d. 1701 at Rotherfield
  + **Joan Weaver,** bap. 1653 at Framfield, m. 1678 at Rotherfield
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1680 at Rotherfield, d. 1749 at Wadhurst
      + **Mary Haiselden,** bap. 1677 at Wadhurst, m. 1703 at Wadhurst, d. 1748 at Wadhurst
        - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1704 at Wadhurst, d. 1783 at Withyham
          + **Sarah (--?--),** b. c1700, m. c1725, d. 1771 at Withyham
            - **Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1733, d. 1792 at Withyham
              + **Jane Roberts,** b. c1737, m. 1755 at Withyham, d. 1817 at Withyham
                - **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1757 at Withyham
                - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1759 at Withyham
                - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1762 at Withyham
                - **Rebecca Akehurst,** bap. 1764 at Withyham
                + **John Brown,** m. 1790 at Withyham
                - **Robert Akehurst,** bap. 1766 at Withyham, d. 1796 at Withyham
                - **Joseph Akehurst,** bap. 1769 at Withyham
                - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1774 at Withyham
                + **Sarah Woodgate,** m. 1798 at Lindfield
                  - **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1798 at Lindfield, d. 1842 at Brighton
                  + **Ann Carden,** b. 1800 at Brighton, m. 1817 at Brighton
                    - **Edward Akehurst,** b. 1818 at Brighton
                    - **Jacob Carden Akehurst,** b. 1821 at Brighton, d. 1891 at Brighton
                    + **Harriet Robbins,** b. c1820 at Brighton, m. 1840 at Brighton, d. 1892 at Brighton
                    - **Ann Akehurst,** b. 1822 at Brighton
                    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1824 at Brighton, d. 1825 at Brighton
                    - **Eliza Akehurst,** bap. 1829 at Brighton
                    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1831 at Brighton, d. 1853 at Brighton

- **Richard Carden Akehurst,** bap. 1836 at Brighton
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1839 at Brighton
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1803 at Brighton
- **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1805 at Brighton, d. 1872 at Brighton
  + **Jane Grover,** b. c1804 at Lewes, m. 1824 at Lewes, d. 1878 at Brighton
    - **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1825 at Brighton
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1828 at Brighton
    - **David Akehurst,** bap. 1830 at Brighton
    - **Charles Akehurst,** bap. 1832 at Brighton
    - **George Benjamin Akehurst,** bap. 1833 at Brighton
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1835 at Brighton
    - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1836 at Brighton, d. 1841 at Brighton
    - **Louisa Akehurst,** bap. 1839 at Brighton
    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1841 at Brighton
    - **Stephen Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1845 at Brighton
- **Abraham Akehurst,** bap. 1809 at Brighton, d. 1843 at Brighton
  + **Ann Botting,** b. c1806 at Fletching, m. 1828 at Lewes, d. 1896
- **Abraham Akehurst,** bap. 1781 at Withyham, d. 1843 at Withyham
  + **Sarah Sevenoaks,** b. c1784, m. 1804 at Withyham, d. 1826 at Withyham
    - **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1804 at Withyham
    - **Dinah Akehurst,** bap. 1806 at Withyham
    - **Joseph Akehurst,** bap. 1808 at Withyham
      + **Mary Avis,** m. 1834 at Withyham
        - **George Akehurst,** bap. 1842 at Withyham
    - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1810 at Withyham
    - **Anne Akehurst,** bap. 1813 at Withyham
    - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1817 at Withyham
    - **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1819 at Withyham
    - **Susanna Akehurst,** bap. 1821 at Withyham
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1824 at Withyham
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1737 at Wadhurst, d. 1807 at Withyham
  + **Mary Roberts,** m. 1757 at Withyham, d. 1812 at Withyham
    - **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1757 at Withyham
      + **Edward Friend,** m. 1792 at Withyham
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1761 at Withyham
      + **Sarah Jenner,** m. 1785 at Tonbridge, KEN [possibility, not verified]
    - **James Akehurst,** bap. 1764 at Withyham
      + **Jane Neve,** m. 1788 at Withyham, d. 1807 at Withyham
        - **Abraham Akehurst,** bap. 1788 at Withyham
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1767 at Withyham
      + **Katherine Collins (nee Potter),** m. 1798 at Withyham, d. 1802 at Withyham
        - **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1800 at Withyham
    - **George Akehurst,** bap. 1771 at Withyham, d. 1785 at Withyham
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1707 at Wadhurst, d. 1733 at Wadhurst
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1711 at Wadhurst

- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1682 at Rotherfield
  + **Thomas Beale,** bap. 1679 at Wadhurst, mlc. 1709
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1682 at Rotherfield
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1686 at Rotherfield
  + **Mary Trice,** bap. 1686 at Lamberhurst, KEN, m. 1711 at Wadhurst
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1712 at Wadhurst, d. 1795 at Wadhurst
      + **Jane (--?--),** b. c1720, m. c1737 at Frant, d. 1788 at Wadhurst
        - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1737 at Frant, d. 1791 at Wadhurst [*of Ticehurst*]

+ **Elizabeth Smith,** m. 1771 at Wadhurst, d. 1776 at Wadhurst
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1771 at Wadhurst
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1773 at Ticehurst
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1774 at Ticehurst

- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1741 at Wadhurst
+ **Elizabeth Wren,** b. c1739, m. 1763 at Wadhurst, d. 1829 at Wadhurst
- **Martha Akehurst,** bap. 1763 at Wadhurst
+ **John Jeffery,** m. 1786 at Wadhurst
- **Anne Akehurst,** bap. 1770 at Wadhurst
+ **Thomas Baldwin,** m. 1793 at Wadhurst
- **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1772 at Wadhurst
- **Lucy Akehurst,** bap. 1773 at Wadhurst, d. 1774 at Wadhurst
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1776 at Wadhurst, d. 1856 at Hailsham
+ **Robert Dann,** m. 1801 at Wadhurst, d. 1831 at Heathfield
- **Reuben Dann,** bap. 1805 at Heathfield
- **Robert Dann,** bap. 1807 at Heathfield
- **James Dann,** bap. 1811 at Heathfield
- **Harriet Dann,** bap. 1814 at Heathfield
+ **William Draper,** b. c1818 at Burling, m. 1845 at Battle
- **Charles Draper,** b. 1849 at Whatlington
- **Stephen Dann,** bap. 1817 at Heathfield
- **George Dann,** bap. 1819 at Heathfield
+ **Mary Lavender,** b. 1818 at Warbleton, m. 1841 at Heathfield
- **Philadelphia Akehurst,** bap. 1777 at Wadhurst
- **Fanny Akehurst,** bap. 1780 at Wadhurst, d. 1832
+ **Edward Wood,** bap. 1775 at Uckfield, m. 1801 at Maidstone, KEN, d. 1852 at Brighton
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1783 at Wadhurst
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1744 at Wadhurst
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1747 at Wadhurst
- **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1751 at Wadhurst

- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1714 at Wadhurst
- **Margaret Akehurst,** bap. 1715 at Wadhurst
+ **Edward Wybourn,** m. 1739 at Ewhurst
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1716 at Wadhurst
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1718 at Wadhurst, d. 1795 at Mayfield
+ **Jane Judd,** b. c1709, m. 1743 at Wadhurst, d. 1789 at Mayfield
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1744 at Wadhurst
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1746 at Wadhurst, d. 1822 at Mayfield
+ **Mary Eastwood,** b. 1742 at Mayfield, m. 1771 at Mayfield, d. 1827 at Mayfield
- **Philadelphia Akehurst,** bap. 1772 at Mayfield
+ **John Weeks,** m. 1797 at Wadhurst, d. 1851 at Wadhurst
- **Mary Weeks,** bap. 1797 at Mayfield
- **Philadelphia Weeks,** b. 1799 at Wadhurst
- **Ann Weeks,** bap. 1802 at Wadhurst
- **William Weeks,** bap. 1804 at Wadhurst
- **John Weeks,** bap. 1807 at Wadhurst
- **James Weeks,** b. 1810 at Wadhurst
- **Hannah Weeks,** b. 1815 at Wadhurst
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1774 at Mayfield
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1775 at Mayfield, d. 1832 at Waldron
+ **Susanna Martin,** bap. 1779 at Warbleton, m. 1798 at Mayfield, d. 1869 at Mayfield
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1799 at Mayfield
+ **William Hope,** b. c1795 at Waldron, m. 1823 at Waldron

- **James Akehurst,** bap. 1802 at Waldron
  - + **Hannah Cramp,** b. c1803 at Heathfield, m. 1826 at Heathfield
    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1827 at Mayfield
    - **James Akehurst,** bap. 1829 at Mayfield, d. 1915 at Frant
      - + **Mary Rabbitt,** b. c1833 at Frant, m. 1856 at Frant, d. 1903 at Frant
        - **Mary Anne Akehurst,** b. c1856 at Frant
        - **Maria Akehurst,** b. c1858 at Frant
        - **Kate Akehurst,** b. 1861 at Frant
        - **Rose Akehurst,** b. c1863 at Frant
        - **James Akehurst,** b. 1865 at Frant, d. 1950 at Frant
          - + **Emily Bassett,** b. 1867 at Cowfold, m. 1888 at Ticehurst, d. 1926 at Frant
        - **Alice Akehurst,** b. c1868 at Frant
        - **Ernest Akehurst,** b. c1869 at Frant
        - **Charles Akehurst,** b. 1870 at Frant
    - **Hannah Akehurst,** bap. 1831 at Mayfield
    - **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1832 at Mayfield
    - **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1834 at Mayfield
    - **Jonathan Akehurst,** bap. 1837 at Mayfield
    - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1839 at Waldron
    - **Reuben Akehurst,** bap. 1843 at Waldron
    - **Alfred Akehurst,** bap. 1845 at Waldron
  - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1804 at Waldron, d. 1865 at Rotherfield
    - + **Mary Ann Fox,** bap. 1806 at Rotherfield, m. 1832 at Rotherfield
      - **George Akehurst,** bap. 1832 at Mayfield
        - + **Adorah Lavender,** b. 1840 at Rotherfield, m. c1865, d. 1908 at London
          - **Alick Akehurst,** b. 1871 at Plumstead, KEN
            - + **Hannah Mary A Freeman,** b. c1875 at Plumstead, KEN, m. c1895
              - **Alick Frederick Akehurst,** b. 1899 at Woolwich, KEN, d. 1966 at London
                - + **Alice Lucy Conrad,** b. 1904 at London, m. c1930, d. 1978 at Welling, KEN
                  - **George David Akehurst,** b. 1926 at London, d. 1994 at Chilliwack, CAN
                    - +**Doreen May Lowman,** b. 1926 at London, m. c1950, d. 1995 at Chilliwack
      - **Albert Akehurst,** bap. 1834 at Mayfield, d. 1834 at Mayfield
      - **David Amos Akehurst,** bap. 1835 at Mayfield
      - **Mark Akehurst,** bap. 1838 at Mayfield
        - + **Mary Ann Adams,** m. c1865
          - **Alice Akehurst,** b. 1871, d. 1938
      - **Jesse Akehurst,** b. 1841 at Rotherfield, d. 1841 at Rotherfield
      - **Amos Akehurst,** b. c1843 at Rotherfield
      - **Ansley Akehurst,** bap. 1847 at Rotherfield, d. 1849 at Rotherfield
      - **Mary Akehurst,** b. 1850 at Rotherfield
  - **Eliza Akehurst,** bap. 1806 at Waldron, d. 1864 at Brighton
    - + **Stephen Jones,** m. 1827 at Mayfield
  - **Philadelphia Akehurst,** b. 1809 at Waldron, d. 1850 at Mayfield
    - + **John Hesman,** b. 1807 at Burwash, m. 1833 at Mayfield
  - **Hannah Akehurst,** bap. 1814 at Waldron
    - + **Henry Hammond,** m. 1838 at Waldron
      - **Susan Hammond,** b. 1849, d. 1922
        - + **Charles Collins,** b. 1846, m. c1875, d. 1921
  - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1819 at Waldron
  - **William Akehurst,** b. c1821 at Waldron
    - + **Mary Ann Styles,** m. 1842 at Waldron
- **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1777 at Mayfield
- **James Akehurst,** bap. 1778 at Mayfield, d. 1842 at Wadhurst

+ **Elizabeth Rich,** m. 1807 at Burwash
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1807 at Mayfield
- **Celia Akehurst,** bap. 1810 at Mayfield
- **James Akehurst,** bap. 1812 at Wadhurst
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1814 at Wadhurst, d. 1816 at Wadhurst
- **Jonathan Akehurst,** bap. 1817 at Wadhurst
+ **Louisa Godden,** m. 1838 at Wadhurst
- **Hannah Akehurst,** bap. 1780 at Mayfield, d. 1782 at Mayfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1781 at Mayfield
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1784 at Mayfield, d. 1785 at Mayfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1749 at Wadhurst
- **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1752 at Wadhurst, d. 1805 at Frant
+ **Ann Hoare,** m. 1784 at Wadhurst
- **Catherine Akehurst,** bap. 1785 at Frant
- **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1793 at Frant
- **George Akehurst,** bap. 1795 at Frant, d. 1814 at Frant
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1719 at Wadhurst, d. 1719 at Wadhurst
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1721 at Wadhurst
- **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1723 at Wadhurst, d. 1723 at Wadhurst
- **Isaac Akehurst,** bap. 1724 at Wadhurst, d. 1724 at Wadhurst
- **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1726 at Wadhurst
- **Anne Akehurst,** bap. 1728 at Wadhurst, d. 1729 at Wadhurst
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1689 at Rotherfield, d. 1689 at Rotherfield
- **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1689 at Rotherfield

## Tree 10. Withyham and Brighton

This tree is a subset of Tree 9 but because of the size of this tree it has been extracted to assist those who descend from the Withyham branch and also to allow for this detailed explanation of why it connects to Tree 9.

The earliest Akehurst baptisms at Withyham are in 1757, to brothers Thomas and John who married there in 1755 and 1757 respectively. The identification of their parents as John and Sarah Akehurst is based on the following removal order from Wadhurst:
Date: 5 Jan 1736
ESRO reference: PAR 498/32/2/35
Description: *John Ackhurst of Withyham with wife Sarah and sons John (2 years) and Thomas (3 years)*
Creator(s): Parish of Wadhurst

The father John Akehurst has been identified as baptised 2 Feb 1703/04 at Wadhurst, son of John Akehurst and Mary Haiselden. His marriage to Sarah has not been found but would have taken place in the early 1730s.

Sarah's burial in 1771 ("wife of John") is the earliest Akehurst burial in Withyham, showing that John and Sarah were probably the first Akehurst family to settle there (as mentioned above, the earliest baptisms there are in 1757). Interestingly, both sons Thomas and John, married women from the Roberts family (probably sisters) and their marriages indicate that both women were "of Tonbridge, Kent". However, the witnesses on Thomas Akehurst and Jane Robert's marriage in 1755 are James & Christopher Roberts who do match up with a family in Rotherfield c1730-40. Although Jane's baptism is not there, a Mary Robarts [sic], daughter of James and Jane Robarts, was baptised there in 1732 and could be wife of Thomas's brother, John. Consistent with this is the family background of the father John Akehurst (1704-1783) which has strong connections to Rotherfield.

**John Akehurst,** b. c1620, d. 1683 at Rotherfield
+ **Mary Whit,** b. c1620, m. 1642 at Rotherfield, d. 1644 at Rotherfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1643 at Rotherfield, d. 1643 at Rotherfield
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1644 at Rotherfield, d. 1645 at Rotherfield

+ **Deborah (--?--),** b. c1625, m. c1648, d. 1693 at Rotherfield
- **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1649 at Rotherfield, d. 1649 at Rotherfield
- **Deborah Akehurst,** bap. 1651 at Rotherfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1656 at Rotherfield, d. 1701 at Rotherfield

+ **Joan Weaver,** bap. 1653 at Framfield, m. 1678 at Rotherfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1680 at Rotherfield, d. 1749 at Wadhurst

+ **Mary Haiselden,** bap. 1677 at Wadhurst, m. 1703 at Wadhurst, d. 1748 at Wadhurst
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1704 at Wadhurst, d. 1783 at Withyham

+ **Sarah (--?--),** b. c1700, m. c1725, d. 1771 at Withyham
- **Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1733, d. 1792 at Withyham

+ **Jane Roberts,** b. c1737, m. 1755 at Withyham, d. 1817 at Withyham
- **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1757 at Withyham
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1759 at Withyham
- **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1762 at Withyham
- **Rebecca Akehurst,** bap. 1764 at Withyham

+ **John Brown,** m. 1790 at Withyham
- **Robert Akehurst,** bap. 1766 at Withyham, d. 1796 at Withyham
- **Joseph Akehurst,** bap. 1769 at Withyham

- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1774 at Withyham
  - + **Sarah Woodgate,** m. 1798 at Lindfield
    - **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1798 at Lindfield, d. 1842 at Brighton
      - + **Ann Carden,** b. 1800 at Brighton, m. 1817 at Brighton, d. 1875 at Brighton
        - **Edward Akehurst,** b. 1818 at Brighton
        - **Jacob Carden Akehurst,** b. 1821 at Brighton, d. 1891 at Brighton
          - + **Harriet Robbins,** b. c1820 at Brighton, m. 1840 at Brighton, d. 1892 at Brighton
        - **Ann Akehurst,** b. 1822 at Brighton
        - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1824 at Brighton, d. 1825 at Brighton
        - **Samuel Akehurst,** b. c1826 at Brighton
        - **Eliza Akehurst,** bap. 1829 at Brighton
        - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1831 at Brighton, d. 1853 at Brighton
        - **Richard Carden Akehurst,** bap. 1836 at Brighton
        - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1839 at Brighton
        - **Catherine Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1844 at Brighton
    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1803 at Brighton
    - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1805 at Brighton, d. 1872 at Brighton
      - + **Jane Grover,** b. c1804 at Lewes, m. 1824 at Lewes, d. 1878 at Brighton
        - **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1825 at Brighton
        - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1828 at Brighton
        - **David Akehurst,** bap. 1830 at Brighton
        - **Charles Akehurst,** bap. 1832 at Brighton
        - **George Benjamin Akehurst,** bap. 1833 at Brighton
        - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1835 at Brighton
        - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1836 at Brighton, d. 1841 at Brighton
        - **Louisa Akehurst,** bap. 1839 at Brighton
        - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1841 at Brighton
        - **Stephen Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1845 at Brighton
    - **Abraham Akehurst,** bap. 1809 at Brighton, d. 1843 at Brighton
      - + **Ann Botting,** b. c1806 at Fletching, m. 1828 at Lewes, d. 1896
  - **Abraham Akehurst,** bap. 1781 at Withyham, d. 1843 at Withyham
    - + **Sarah Sevenoaks,** b. c1784, m. 1804 at Withyham, d. 1826 at Withyham
      - **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1804 at Withyham
      - **Dinah Akehurst,** bap. 1806 at Withyham
      - **Joseph Akehurst,** bap. 1808 at Withyham
        - + **Mary Avis,** m. 1834 at Withyham
          - **George Akehurst,** bap. 1842 at Withyham
      - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1810 at Withyham
      - **Anne Akehurst,** bap. 1813 at Withyham
      - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1817 at Withyham
      - **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1819 at Withyham
      - **Susanna Akehurst,** bap. 1821 at Withyham
      - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1824 at Withyham
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1737 at Wadhurst, d. 1807 at Withyham
  - + **Mary Roberts,** m. 1757 at Withyham, d. 1812 at Withyham
    - **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1757 at Withyham
      - + **Edward Friend,** m. 1792 at Withyham
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1761 at Withyham
      - + **Sarah Jenner,** m. 1785 at Tonbridge, KEN [possibility, not verified]
    - **James Akehurst,** bap. 1764 at Withyham
      - + **Jane Neve,** m. 1788 at Withyham, d. 1807 at Withyham
        - **Abraham Akehurst,** bap. 1788 at Withyham
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1767 at Withyham

+ **Katherine Collins (nee Potter),** m. 1798 at Withyham, d. 1802 at Withyham
└── **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1800 at Withyham
└── **George Akehurst,** bap. 1771 at Withyham, d. 1785 at Withyham
├── **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1707 at Wadhurst, d. 1733 at Wadhurst
└── **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1711 at Wadhurst

Refer Tree 9. Rotherfield and Wadhurst for the rest of this tree.

## Tree 11. John Akehurst of Laughton

**John Akehurst,** b. c1675, bur. 1729 at Laughton
+ **Margaret Nicholas,** bap. 1667 at Laughton, m. 1699 at Dallington, bur. 1710 at Laughton
├── **Marey Akehurst,** b. 1700 at Laughton, bur. 1700 at Laughton
├── **Mary Akehurst,** b. 1701 at Laughton
+ **Henry Durrant,** m. 1720 at Warbleton
├── **John Akehurst,** b. 1702 at Laughton, bur. 1702 at Laughton
├── **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. 1703 at Laughton
├── **John Akehurst,** b. c1705 at Laughton, bur. 1763 at Laughton
+ **Susanna Cinderford,** bap. 1708 at Framfield, m. 1731 at Framfield, bur. 1779 at Laughton
├── **John Akehurst,** bap. 1732 at Laughton
├── **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1735 at Laughton
├── **Joseph Akehurst,** bap. 1739 at Laughton
├── **Lucy Akehurst,** bap. 1742 at Laughton, bur. 1776 at Laughton
├── **Winifred Akehurst,** bap. 1748 at Laughton, bur. 1799 at Laughton
+ **John Linfield,** m. 1786 at Laughton
└── **Samuel Cinderford Akehurst,** bap. 1751 at Laughton, bur. 1752 at Laughton
└── **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1708 at Laughton, bur. 1708 at Laughton
+ **Ann Eason,** m. 1714 at Laughton
├── **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1716 at Laughton
├── **Dorothy Akehurst,** bap. 1718 at Laughton
├── **Elinor Akehurst,** bap. 1720 at Laughton
+ **Henry Newick,** m. 1753 at Kingston by Lewes
└── **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1722 at Laughton, bur. 1807 at Hailsham
+ **Richard Bignal,** m. 1743 at Arlington, bur. 1781 at Hailsham

Notes:

A good candidate for the John Akehurst that starts this tree is:
*John Akehurst bap. 12 Sep 1675 at Udimore St Mary, son of Nicholas Akehurst and Mary Duke.*
Both Nicholas and Mary died in 1681 and were buried at Udimore, and there is evidence that their three children returned to Hailsham where Nicholas was born in 1643 (the evidence being that his brother Andrew was noted as "of Hailsham" on his marriage in 1710). Hailsham is quite close to Laughton, hence he being a good candidate. If this is the case, the above tree connects to Tree 4.

## Tree 12. John Akehurst of Northiam

**John Akehurst,** b. c1640, bur. 1693 at Northiam
+ **Elizabeth Whatman,** m. 1666 at Salehurst, bur. 1679 at Northiam
- **John Akehurst,** b. c1667, bur. 1674 at Northiam
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1669 at Salehurst, bur. 1669 at Salehurst
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1671 at Salehurst
  + **George Godfrey,** m. 1695 at Northiam
- **Jane Akehurst,** bap. 1675 at Northiam
- **Robert Akehurst,** bap. 1676 at Northiam, bur. 1688 at Northiam

+ **Sarah Dennet,** m. 1682 at Northiam
- **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1673 at Northiam, bur. 1684 at Northiam
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1682 at Northiam
- **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1686 at Northiam
- **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1691 at Northiam, bur. 1691 at Northiam
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1693 at Northiam

## Miscellaneous Trees

The family trees in this section are "islands" yet to be connected into the main trees.

## Tree M1. John Akehurst & Ann Pocock of Hellingly

There is no baptism to be found for the John Akehurst born c1777 who starts the tree below.

Clues to his parentage were followed up, but unfortunately no conclusion could be reached. The clues were:

1. His marriage in 1799 at Hellingly was witnessed by Thomas Pankhurst. Could this be a relative? [the other witness, Henry Blunden, witnessed many marriages and is likely to be the parish clerk]
2. In the 1851 census, his widow wife, Ann Akehurst (nee Pocock) is living next door to William Akehurst and his wife Jane (nee Baker). Could William Akehurst be a kinsman of John Akehurst?
3. His children's names – could they point to his parents?

Each of these is discussed below.

1. Thomas Pankhurst

The identity of this Thomas Pankhurst is confirmed by matching his signature on the marriage[28] with his signature on his will[29] proved in 1815. Thomas was a yeoman living at Hailsham where John Akehurst lived and would have been aged about 60 years at the time of John Akehurst's marriage in 1799, so quite senior. Although Thomas Pankhurst would have travelled from Hailsham to Hellingly for the marriage, there is nothing in Thomas Pankhurst's family to indicate a connection to John Akehurst, so it may have been that John or Ann worked for him or they had no other family to call upon.

There is a marriage between a Joseph Pankhurst and Jane Akehurst in 1787 at Mayfield. While this held some intriguing possibilities, there is also no baptism for Jane Akehurst and after investigating the Pankhursts I can say that any connection between Thomas Pankhurst of Hailsham and Joseph Pankhurst would be well before 1700.

2. William Akehurst, neighbour in the 1851 census

In the 1851 census, John Akehurst's widowed wife, Ann Akehurst (nee Pocock) is living in Hailsham next door to William Akehurst and his wife Jane (nee Baker). This is the only occurrence in the census records so maybe it was coincidence, maybe not. William Akehurst was baptised 1792 at Hellingly son of Stephen Akehurst and Hannah Gower. If William Akehurst and the widow Ann Akehurst are kin, then it would mean that the tree below connects somehow to Tree 7 in Chapter 2.

However, an alternate explanation for the kinship between the two families could be through the Gower family and not the Akehursts. In the 1851 census mentioned above, the widow Ann Akehurst is living with her son Thomas Akehurst and his wife Mary (nee Message). Mary Message's mother was Jane Gower, a niece of the Hannah Gower who married Stephen

[28] FamilySearch Film: 1067203, Image: 508
[29] FamilySearch Film: 1886140, Image: 373

Akehurst (Tree 7). So technically speaking, the kinship could have been between Mary and William Akehurst, and not necessarily between Ann Akehurst and William Akehurst. However, it is possible that both were related, as there are many examples of marriages between cousins.

3. Children's names

John Akehurst's children were named John, George, Henry, William, Thomas Stephen and Mary. If John came from Hellingly, he would have been connected to the family of Stephen Akehurst and Hannah Gower (see 2. above), and their children were named **Stephen**, **Thomas**, Anna, Hannah, Charlotte, Shem, Sarah, **Henry**, Caroline, **Mary** Ann and **William** (in-common christian names highlighted).
It is a reasonable match but not firm evidence just on its own.

Conclusion

There is just not sufficient evidence to say where John Akehurst was born or who is parents were. It may simply be a case of a missing baptism for John, or he could have been an adoption where he took the name of Akehurst, or he may have been illegitimate. Nevertheless, the above information may help to one day solve the puzzle.

**John Akehurst,** b. c1777, d. 1848 at Hailsham
+ **Ann Pocock,** bap. 1777 at Chalvington, m. 1799 at Hellingly, d. 1863 at Hellingly
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1805 at Hellingly
  + **Eliza Bishop,** b. c1803, m. 1825 at Hellingly, d. 1846 at Hailsham
    - **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1825 at Hellingly, d. 1893 at Lewes
      + **Harriet Christmas,** bap. 1820 at Wartling, m. 1850 at Hellingly, d. 1905 at Lewes
        - **Charles Akehurst,** b. 1852 at Wartling, d. 1917 at Lewes
          + **Mary Ann Winder,** b. 1843 at Newhaven, m. 1873 at Lewes, d. 1924 at Lewes
    - **George Akehurst,** bap. 1828 at Hellingly, d. 1833 at Hellingly
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1833 at Hellingly
- **George Akehurst,** bap. 1806 at Hellingly
  + **Elizabeth Page,** bap. 1820 at Laughton, m. 1841 at Hellingly
- **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1808 at Hellingly
  + **Sarah Ann Pitcher,** bap. 1812 at Hellingly, m. 1835 at Hellingly, d. 1913 at Hailsham
    - **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1837 at Hellingly
    - **Sarah Ann Akehurst,** b. 1841 at Hellingly
    - **John Akehurst,** b. 1843 at Hellingly
    - **George Luther Akehurst,** b. 1845 at Hellingly
      + **Elizabeth Pattenden,** b. 1849 at Hellingly, m. 1870 at Hailsham, d. 1927 at Hellingly, admon. 1928
    - **Ruth Akehurst,** b. 1847 at Hellingly
      + **John William Goad,** m. 1889 at Hailsham
    - **Calvin Akehurst,** b. 1850 at Hellingly
    - **Mahalath Akehurst,** b. 1853 at Hellingly
      + **Ephraim Greenway,** m. 1879 at Hailsham
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1811 at Hellingly
  + **Ann Longley [nee Martin],** bap. 1816 at Herstmonceux, m. 1850 at Patcham, bur. 1853 at Brighton
    - **Esther Akehurst,** b. 1851 at Patcham
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1814 at Hellingly
  + **Mary Message,** bap. 1814 at Warbleton, m. 1844 at Hellingly, bur. 1867 at Hellingly
- **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1816 at Hellingly, d. 1869 at Hailsham
  + **Melezener Meria Austin,** b. c1818 at Hellingly, m. 1848 at Hailsham, d. 1887 at Hellingly
    - **Belinda Akehurst,** b. 1849 at Hellingly, d. 1912 (pr. 1932 at London)
      + **Edward Mansell,** m. 1875 at Atcham, Shropshire

└── **Rhoda Eliza Akehurst,** b. c1852 at Hellingly, d. 1863 at Hellingly
└── **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1821 at Hellingly, d. 1833 at Hellingly

## Tree M2. Henry Akehurst ( -1606), of Herstmonceux & son William ( -1641)

**Henry Akehurst,** b. c1550, d. 1606 at Herstmonceux
+ **Catherine (--?--),** b. c1550, m. c1574
├── **Judith Akehurst,** bap. 1574 at Herstmonceux
├── **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1577 at Herstmonceux, d. 1578 at Herstmonceux
├── **Tamsyn Akehurst,** bap. 1579 at Herstmonceux
├── **William Akehurst,** b. c1580, d. 1641 at Herstmonceux
│ + **unknown spouse**
│ ├── **Margaret Akehurst,** b. c1610, d. 1660 at Crowhurst
│ │ + **Henry Russell,** m. 1632 at Herstmonceux, d. 1653 at Crowhurst
│ └── **Henry Akehurst,** b. c1615
│ + **Eleanor Lake,** b. c1580, m. 1630 at Herstmonceux, d. 1642 at Herstmonceux
└── **Susan Akehurst,** bap. 1582 at Herstmonceux

# Chapter 3 – The Akehurst Wills

## 1. Will of Thomas Akerst of Hellingly, 1541

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/1/84E)
Made: 25 Oct 1541
Proved:

In the name of god and in the yere of our lord god 1541 pon the 25 day of october I **Thomas Akerst** of the pishe of helynglegh hole of mynd & in my good reme[m]brance beyng makyth this my test[ament] & last will in man[ner] & forme foloyng that is to say first I gyff & bequeth my soule to almyghti god to hys blessed mother o[u]r lady St mary & to all the holy company of hevyn my body to be buried in the church yard of helynglegh It I bequeth to the hie altar of the pishe church of helyngley for my tithes necligently forgotten iiijd It it is my will to have ij p[rie]stes at my buriall ij at my monthes mynd ij at my yeres mynd to say masse for my soule & all xten soules It it is my wyll that all my goodes cattels & howsehold stuff be devyded in ij ptes & the one half to **jone akerst** my wiff & to **John Akerst** my son & the other half to be devyded among my other children It it is my will that **jone akerst** my wiff have her dwelling in my house & occupyeng of half the ground th[e]rwth the whole wt **John Akerst** my son duryng her wydowhode the Resydewe of my goodes not gyffyn nor bequethed my dettes payd my legaces fulfillyd I gyff & bequeth to **Jone Akerst** my wiff & to **John akerst** my son the wch **jone** & **john** I co[n]stitute & make my trew & lefall exec[utors] to dispose for my soule & all xten soules as thay thynke most necessary It is my will that **Ric Akerst** my yongist son have the lease of my for{?}ehold in hersted helyngley **Alin {b}odyll** wt other men [inventory total] 12li ijs xd
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 20 September 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People
Thomas Akehurst, testator
Joan Akehurst, wife, executor
John Akehurst, son, executor
Richard Akehurst, youngest son
Alin [Allan] Bodyll

Places
Hellingly

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1500, d. c1541 at Hellingly
+ **Joan (--?--),** m. c1520, d. after 1541
├── **John Akehurst,** b. c1520 at Hellingly?
└── **Richard Akehurst,** b. c1530 at Hellingly?

## 2. Will of Thomas Akerst of Hailsham, 1553

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/3/69E)
Made: 12 Feb 1552/53
Proved: 1553
Exhibited: 6 Apr 1553

folio lxix$^{o}$

In the name god Amen the xij$^{th}$ day of Februarye in the yere of our lord god m$^{o}$ v$^{\{c\}o}$ lij$^{o}$ [1552] the vij$^{th}$ yere of the Reigne of our Sov[er]aigne Lord King Edward the Sext I **Thomas Akerst** of Haylsham in the Countie of Sussex cowper being hole of mynd & pfyght remembra{u}nce the day of makyng hereof do ordeyn & make thys my psent last wyll & Testam$^{t}$ in mann[er] & Forme Followyng, that is to say, Fyrst I beqweth my soule unto allmyghtie god my maker & redem[er] & my bodye to be buryed in the churche yarde of Haylsham It I wyll & bequeth to the poore Sowles boxe xijd It I wyll unto my two sonnes **Samuell** and **Edward** ij kyen colour red ho{v}yd & black pyed to be put Forth by my ov[er]seer & Imployed to the most that can be to the use of my sayd ij sonnes It I wyll unto **Elsabeth** my wyff the howsse wherein I dwell w$^{th}$ the forge in haylsham strett wth theyr appurtennces duryng her naturall lyffe payng therfor when my Sonne **Edward** shall come to the age of x yeres, unto the seyd **Samuell** & **Edward** xiij$^{s}$ iiij$^{d}$ yerly to be receyted [word scored through] & taken by my ov[er]seer & Imployed to the most pfytt yt may for my seyd chyldren & to be delyv[er]ed to them unto them when anye of theym shall come to lawfull age And aft the decease of **Elsabeth** my wyff I wyll & gyve the sayd howsse wherin I dwell in the pishe of Haylsham unto **Samuell** my sonne and to the heires of his bodye lawfully begotten & yf it Fortune my sonne **Samuell** to deceasse wthout heires of hys bodye Then the same to remayne to **Edwarde** my Sonne & to the heires of hys bodye lawfully begotten It I wyll & gyve the {s}ayd Forge in Haylsham strett unto **Edwarde** my youngest Sonne & to the heirs of his bodye lawfully begotten & for lack of such heires the sayd forge to remayne to **Samuell** my Sonne & to the heires of his bodye lawfully begotten & yf yt shuld cha{u}nce that my sayd ij sonnes shulde happen to dye wthout heires of theyre bodyes lawfully begotten Then I wyll the sayd howsse & Forge w$^{th}$ theyr appurtenances to remayne to **Elsabeth** my wyff & to the heires of her bodye lawfully begotten & for lack of heires of the bodye of the sayd **Elsabeth** my wyff to remayne to the heires of me the sayd **Akerst** for ever The Resydwe of all my goodes & cattelles my dettes payd & thys my testam$^{t}$ pformed I wyll & gyve the same unto the sayd **Elsabeth** my wyff whom I constitute & make my sole executrix & she to bere & pay all man[ner] of charges & rep[ar]acons duryng her lyff & for the sa{v} & better pformation of thys my psent last wyll & Testam$^{t}$ I ordeyn constitute & make **Thomas Esterfeld** to be my ov[er]seer & he to have for his paynes one ewe & a lambe Thys wytnessyth Laurence Newell Thomas Bysshopp Allexander Foster w$^{t}$ other {men}

Suma In$^{\{r\}ij}$ __ vj$^{li}$ ix$^{s}$ vj$^{d}$

exhibit in ecclia pochili de Westham vj$^{o}$ die Ap[ri]lis Ao dni 1553 p exec_ ad valor_ Inrij in forma inris inrata_

*Total of the inventory £6 9s 6d*

*Exhibited in the parish church of Westham the 6th day of April in the year of our Lord 1553 by the executrix to the value of the inventory [as above written?]*

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 17 September 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People
Thomas Akehurst, cooper, testator
Elizabeth Akehurst, wife, executrix
Samuel Akehurst, son
Edward Akehurst, youngest son
Thomas Esterfeld, overseer
Laurence Newell, witness
Thomas Bishop, witness
Alexander Foster, witness

Places
Hailsham
Westham

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1500, d. 1553 at Hailsham
+ **Elisabeth (--?--),** m. c1530, d. after 1553
├── **Samuel Akehurst,** b. c1540 at Hailsham?
└── **Edward Akehurst,** b. c1545 at Hailsham?

## 3. Will of William Akerst of Hellingly, 1554

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/3/135B)
Made: 26 Dec 1554
Exhibited: 9 Jan 1554/55

In the name of god amen the yere of our lorde god 1554$^{o}$ the xxvj$^{th}$ day of december I **wyllm akerst** of the pyshe of Hellyngleygh syke of bodye but pyfyghte of mynde & Remembra{u}nce thankes be to god doe ordayne & make thys my last & Testam$^{t}$ [*sic*] after thys man[ner] & forme followynge that ys to say fyrst I beqweth my my soule unto allmyghtye god & my bodye to be buryed w$^{th}$in the churche yarde of hellyngleigh It I be[quea]th to the hygh altar {?} iiij$^{d}$ Itm I beqweth to **Thomas akerst** my Sonne one lease of a pcell of grounde lyenge at horsses hyll conteynyng xv acrasse durynge the sayd lease Also I gyve unto the same **Thomas** ij oxen & ij steres of the best of iij yeres of age at ester next comynge and one grey mare w$^{th}$ a colte one saddell one bytt ij haffers of iij yere of age that to be delyvered to hym at sancte george next comynge Also I beqweth to the same **Thomas** my best brasse pott one flocke bedd w$^{th}$ all that therto belongyth one weyne one plowgh one court one harrow ij hook yokes one nebb yoke ij tyghthes one chape ij bent roppes ij tables ij formes one table clothe one payre of tressylles one platter one pewter dyshe one hole harnesse & one seame of wheatt at Mychaelmas next comynge Itm I gyve & beqweth to **henr[y] akerst** my Sonne ij oxen ij steres of iij yeres of age And one haffer of that age ij twoyeryng haffers one sorrell geldynge one sallett one one twelmonthynge colte & my ferme callyd wayfylles durynge the lease & one cowe to be delyv[er]yd at sancte george next comynge & one hooke yoke one nebbe yoke one tyghthe one chape one harrowe the gretest caldron one platter one pewter dyshe & one bedd w$^{th}$ all that therto belongyth ij tables ij formes one payre of trestelles one table clothe ij sythes & halfe a seame of wheatt at mychaellmas next comynge It I beqweth to **Wyllm akerst** my Sonne x$^{li}$ to be payd to hym at the age of xviij yeres And yf yt fortune that any of them do departe this world unmarryed Then I wyll & my very wyll is that the portion of the chyld shalbe eqwally shyfte betwyxt the other ij of my sonnes & so the one to be heire to the other of them of all suche beqwethes as ys before namyd Itm I gyve & bequethe unto **Thomsyn akerst Agnes akerst** & **Elizabeth akerst** my dawghters ev[e]ry one of them vi$^{li}$ xiij$^{s}$ iiij$^{d}$ to be payd to them at the age of xvi yeres And yf it fortune any of them to dye before the age before expressed Then I wyll & my very wyll ys that the portyon of that chylde shalbe eqwally shyfte betwyxt the other ij of my dawghters & so the one to be // heire to the other of them Itm I beqweth to **jone tomkyn** & **katheryne page** my dowghters to eche of them xx$^{s}$ All The Resydew of my goodes not gyven nor beqwethed I gyve & beqweth to **Jone** my wyfe whom I do ordayne & make my sole executryx of thys my last wyll & Testam$^{t}$ & she to pay my dettes & legaces Itm I wyll that **John akerst** the elder & **John Tomkyn** the elder shall call all such S[u]ms of monye as be beqwethed to my iij dawghters out of my wyfes handes yf the case so reqwyre that yt fortune my wyfe to marrye agayne Then they shall call for yt before she be twysse axed in the churche Itm I wyll & my very wyll is that **Jone** my wyfe shall keepe & brynge upp my iiij$^{or}$ youngest chyldren untyll they come to the age of xvj yeres of her own coste & charge Itm I give to **Ric Burges** of Hethfeld vj$^{s}$ viij$^{d}$ & to **henry brown** vi$^{s}$ viij$^{d}$ Whom I do ordayne & make my ov[er]seers to se thys my wyll truly pformyd in ev[er]y condycon Wytnesses to the same **Ric burges Ric grynt John akerst Robte akerst John tomkyn Stephane page** w$^{th}$ other

Suma In$^{rij}$ ___ lxxx$^{li}$

exhibit in ecc pochli de hethfeld ix$^{o}$ die januarii a$^{o}$ 1554 p exec ad valor_ [eiusdem?] inv_

*Total of inventory ___ £.80*
*exhibited in the parish church of Heathfield the 9th day of January 1554 in the year 1554 [1555] by the executrix to the value of [the said?] inventory*

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 7 September 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People
William Akehurst, testator
Joan Akehurst, wife, executrix
Thomas Akehurst, son
Henry Akehurst, son
William Akehurst, son
Thomsyn [Thomasin] Akehurst, daughter
Agnes Akehurst, daughter
Elizabeth Akehurst, daughter
Joan Tomkyn, daughter
Katheryn Page, daughter
John Akehurst the elder
John Tomkyn the elder
Richard Burgess of Heathfield, overseer
Henry Brown, overseer
Richard Burgess, witness
Richard Grint, witness
John Akehurst, witness
Robert Akehurst, witness
John Tomkyn, witness
Stephen Page, witness

Places
Hellingly
Heathfield

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**William Akehurst,** b. c1500, d. 1554 at Hellingly
+ **Joan (--?--),** m. c1525
- **Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1526 at Hellingly?
- **Joan Akehurst,** b. c1528 at Hellingly?
  - + **(--?--) Tomkyn,** b. c1530, m. c1552
- **Katherine Akehurst,** b. c1532 at Hellingly?
  - + **(--?--) Page,** b. c1530, m. c1554
- **Henry Akehurst,** b. c1535 at Hellingly?
- **daughter Akehurst,** b. c1540 at Hellingly?
  - + **Giles Grint,** b. c1540, m. c1560, bur. 1609 at Herstmonceux
    - **Daniel Grint,** bap. 1564 at Herstmonceux
    - **Jeremy Grint**, bap. 1578 at Herstmonceux
- **Thomsyn Akehurst,** b. c1540 at Hellingly?
- **Agnes Akehurst,** b. c1542 at Hellingly?

├── **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. c1544 at Hellingly?
│ + **Nicholas Shadwell,** b. c1540, m. c1570, d. 1591at Hellingly, pr. 1591 [*see note below*][30]
└── **William Akehurst,** b. c1545 at Hellingly?, d. 1592 at Wartling
+ **Constance (--?--),** b. c1550, m. c1575, d. after 1613
├── **William Akehurst,** bap. 1577 at Wartling, d. before 1592
└── **Jonas Akehurst,** b. c1580, d. 1613/14 at Hellingly

Note:

1. The "daughter Akehurst" in the above tree is either Thomsyn, Agnes or Elizabeth.
2. William Akehurst is shown here as the father of William Akehurst of Hellingly who left a will made in 1592. The brother's named in William's 1592 will (Thomas and Henry) match and the surname Grynt/Grint appears in the earlier will as a witness and in this later will as a brother-in-law.

[30] Elizabeth's brother Henry Akehurst and her brother-in-law Giles Grint are mentioned in the will of Nicholas Shadwell of Hellingly, made on 17 Sep 1590, proved 18 May 1591 (ESRO: PBT 1/1/8/423B). They are made trustees and overseers. Nicholas's wife Elizabeth is likley to be Elizabeth Akehurst and this has been shown above.

## 4. Will of Robert Akehurst of Hellingly, 1560

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/4/366C)
Made: 15 Jan 1558/59
Probate: 1560
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1885593; images: 141-143)

In the name of god Amen in the yere of our Lord god 1558 & in the xvth daye of Januarii I **Robert Akehurst** of the pyshe of Hellynglygh being sycke & of good remembra[u]nce mak my testament & last wyll as here after followeth Fyrst I bequethe my soule unto the mercy of almyghtie god & to all the blessed companye of heaven & my bodye to be buryed wthin the churche yard of Hellinglygh Itm I will to the mother churche of Chichester iid Itm I will to **Alyce Akehurst** my wyfe all all suche goodes agayne as she brought unto me And for the {cawye}[31] that I sold of hers I will that she shall have iij twelmontinges Itm I will to **Bartholomewe Akehurst** & to **Edward Akehurst** my sonnes & to **Mary Akehurst** & to **Anne Akehurst** // my Doughters & to ev[er]y one of these xls a yere to be payed at the daye of ther maryage by my execut[or] Itm I will to **bartholomew** my sonne a chest of iij halfe busshells an yron potte of ij gallons and a halfe Itm I will to **Anne** my doughter a brasse kettyll of a gallon an yron potte of a gallon & a woodden trouge I will to **Mary** my doughter a chest of a busshell a brode bry{mm}e pewther plater and a brode byme wodden bowle Itm I will that my lease of p{evrage}otherwyse called the north land to be sold to the most advantage to paye my dettes Itm I will that my brother **Edward Akehurst** shall have my land callyd the Redde wayle the space of xij yeres to dyscharge **John Austen** of Waddurst of his xli And the Annuytie that {he} must have of the same The ov[er]plus of my house landes that remayneth I will shall goo to the fynding of my youngest child the space of fyve yeres The Resydewe of all my goodes not bequeathed my legacyes and debtes payed I will and beqethe to **John Akehurst** my sonne whome I make my whole execut[or] And my brother **John** and my brother **Edward** to be ov[er]sears of this my last will these men being wytnesse **Sr John Slatter Robert {R}ych{ar}des {Wllm} Akehurst** wt other men
Inv Iurii ___ xiij li xxijd
Ext in ecclia pochli de Ripe {?}o die Aprilis Ano Dni {???}
exec ad valor {??? ???} inv

*Inventory sworn ___ £13 22d*
*Exhibited in the parish church of Riple the ? day of April ? [year illegible][32]*
*[Executed?] to the value [of the above?] inventory*

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 20 September 2018)*

### NOTES:

People
Robert Akehurst, testator
Alyse [Alice] Akehurst, wife
Bartholomew Akehurst, son
Edward Akehurst, son
Mary Akehurst, daughter
Anne Akehurst, daughter
John Austen [Austin] of Wadhurst

[31] Cow(s), presumably.
[32] Probate of the previous will in the ledger is dated 1560.

John Akehurst, son, Executor
John Akehurst, brother (overseer)
Edward Akehurst, brother (overseer)
John Slatter, witness
Robert Richards, witness
William Akehurst, witness

Places
Hellingly
Wadhurst
Penshurst
Land called the "Redde Wayle", [possibly meant to be Redwall. See: Copy probate of will (proved at Lewes 30 May 1749) of William Shadwell of Burwash, gent which mentions "land called Redwall (15a) in Hellingly in occupation of John Akehurst"][33]
Also see:
**Conveyance (lease and release) for £160** by Thomas Fuller of Sevenoaks, Kent, doctor of physic to William Shadwell of Burwash, gent. Date: 25, 26 Mar 1720. [34]

> Description: Three pieces of land called Redwall (15a) in occupation of Philip Thompkin (W: highway, E: woodlands called Peuridge, S & N: lands of William Shadwell), late belonging to John Akehurst of Warbleton, deceased.

Relevant Events
The following ESRO documents probably refer to Robert's son John Akehurst (the elder) mentioned in this will, and to John's son Edward:
**Conveyance for £100.** Date: 20 Mar 1589.[35]

> Robert Sydney, kt, of Penshurst, Kent, to John Akehurst the elder of Hellingly, yeoman, his son and heir Edward Akehurst, and John Akehurst, younger son of Edward Akehurst; lands and tenements called Blackstocke in Hellingly

**Conveyance for £240.** Date: 30 May 1597.[36]

> John Akehurst of Catsfield, yeoman, to Anthony Hotheroppe of Brenchley, Kent, yeoman; lands and tenements called Blackstocke in Hellingly

Note also:
**Quitclaim.** Date: 14 Sep 1632.[37]

> Mary Akehurst of Hellingly, widow of John Akehurst, gent, deceased to Anthony Reeve of Biddenden, Kent, gent; right of dower in lands and tenements called Blackestocke in Hellingly

Family Tree
See Tree 1. "Robert Akehurst of Hellingly" in Chapter 2.

[33] *Copy probate of will (proved at Lewes 30 May 1749) of William Shadwell of Burwash* (ESRO: CHR 6/1/5)
[34] *Conveyance (lease and release) for £160 by Thomas Fuller of Sevenoaks, Kent, doctor of physic to William Shadwell of Burwash, gent*. Date: 25,26 March 1720. (ESRO: CHR/6/1/3-4)
[35] *Conveyance for £100*. Date: 20 Mar 1589. (ESRO: SAS/P 15)
[36] *Conveyance for £240*. Date: 30 May 1597. (ESRO: SAS/P 20)
[37] *Quitclaim*. Date: 14 Sep 1632. (ESRO: SAS/P 42)

## 5. Admon of Constance Akehurst of Whatlington, 1582

(ESRO: PBT 1/3/1/109M)
Date: 31 July 1582

[In margin] Adm_strat_ bonor_ ~~Johes~~ Constantia Akehurst {de} Whatlington defunct
Ultimo Julii 1581 du{?} comisit adm_stratoem
bonor_ dict defunt{?} Joh[e]m Akehurst in
debita iuris forma iurat &c ad exhibend
Invenm citra festu{m} Scti Michas prox sequen

*Administration of the goods of ~~John~~ Constance Akehurst of Whatlington deceased*
*The last day of July 1582 {???} committed the administration of the goods of the said deceased to John Akehurst in due form of law sworn etc. Inventory to be exhibited before the feast of St Michael next following*

There is a second admon:
**Admon of Constance Akehurst of Whatlington, 1582**
(ESRO: PBT 1/3/1/110C)
Date: 28 August 1582

[In margin] Adm_strat_ bonor_ Constancie Akehurst nup[er] de Whatlington {defunct}
xxviij$^{o}$ die mensis Augusti 1582
comisit adm _stracoem bonor_ dicti
def Joh[e]m Akehurst de Waldron in debita
iuris forma iurat &c Invenm ad
sumam xvi$^{li}$ vij$^{s}$ vij$^{d}$ ob ___

*Administration of the goods of Constance Akehurst late of Whatlington deceased*
*The 28th day of the month of August 1582 administration of the goods of the said deceased was committed to John Akehurst in due form of law sworn etc. Inventory to the total of £16 7s 7d*
*bound* ___

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 7 October 2018)*

## NOTES:

People
Constance Akehurst, testator
John Akehurst

Places
Whatlington

Relevant Events
Constance Akehurst was buried 18 Jul 1582 at Whatlington St Mary Magdalene (under the surname ARCHUSTE). The only other Akehurst burials at Whatlington in the SFHG index start at 1627 and are all under the name AYHURST. Likewise, all the baptisms are recorded under AYHURST and start at 1615. Given the small number of these baptisms and burials they are all likely descendants of Constance. A speculative tree is given below which links to other Ayhurst members who left wills.

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Constance (--?--),** d. 1582 at Whatlington
+**unknown spouse**
- **John Ayhurst,** b. c1550
  - + **Alice (--?--),** b. c1560, m. c1580, d. 1627 at Whatlington
    - **John Ayhurst,** b. c1585, d. 1635 at Uckfield
      - + **Ann Huckstep,** b. c1590, mlc. 1612, d. 1638 at Uckfield
        - **Thomas Ayhurst,** bap. 1615 at Whatlington, d. 1638 at Uckfield
        - **John Ayhurst,** bap. 1618 at Uckfield
        - **Joan Ayhurst,** bap. 1618 at Uckfield
        - **William Ayhurst,** bap. 1620 at Uckfield
        - **Ann Ayhurst,** bap. 1622 at Uckfield
        - **Elizabeth Ayhurst,** bap. 1624 at Uckfield, d. 1626 at Uckfield
        - **Susan Ayhurst,** b. c1627 at Uckfield, d. 1627 at Uckfield
        - **Mary Ayhurst,** bap. 1629 at Uckfield
          - + **William Fawkner,** m. 1655 at Hawkhurst, KEN
            - **John Fawkner,** b. c1656
            - **Samuel Fawkner,** b. c1658
            - **Daniel Fawkner,** b. c1660
            - **William Fawkner,** b. c1662
            - **Mary Fawkner,** b. c1664
            - **Sarah Fawkner,** b. c1666
            - **Hannah Fawkner,** b. c1668
        - **Francis Ayhurst,** bap. 1632 at Uckfield, d. 1690 at Ewhurst
          - + **Ann (--?--),** m. c1660
    - **Thomas Ayhurst,** b. c1590
      - + **Mary (--?--),** m. c1624
        - **William Ayhurst,** bap. 1624 at Whatlington, d. 1639 at Whatlington
        - **Edward Ayhurst,** bap. 1627 at Whatlington, d. 1648 at Whatlington
        - **Ann Ayhurst,** bap. 1630 at Whatlington
        - **Elizabeth Ayhurst,** bap. 1634 at Whatlington
        - **Bridget Ayhurst,** bap. 1635 at Whatlington
        - **Mary Ayhurst,** bap. 1638 at Whatlington
    - **Joan Ayhurst,** b. c1595, d. 1637 at Whatlington

Note: The above tree is highly speculative before John Ayhurst and Ann Huckstep's marriage licence in 1612. The link back to Whatlington (from Uclfield) is based on the baptism of Thomas Ayhurst there in 1615 to a John Ayhurst (mother's name not given) which fits in with the marriage and other children. The link back to Constance is guesswork based on the handful of Ayhurst baptisms and burials in the Whatlington registers.

## 6. Will of John Akehurste of Hellingly 1591

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/8/448)
Made: 17 Aug 1591
Probate: 16 Sep 1591
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1885743; image: 463)
*NB There are several vertical creases in the document making parts of some words invisible.*

John Akeherste of Hellingley

In the name of god Amen The xvii$^{th}$ daye of August in the year of our lord god one thousande fyve hundred ffour score & eleven and in the yeare of the reigne of our moste grati[ous] sovereigne Ladye Quene Elizabeth that now is &c the xxxiii$^{th}$ I **John Akehurste** of the parishe of Hellinglighe in the county of Sussex yeman beinge sicke in bodye but of good [and] perfecte remembrance thanks be unto god doe make & ordeyne this my last will & testament in ma[nne]r & fforme foll[ow]inge ffyrste I bequithe my soule to Almightye god my creator & redeemer And my bodye to be buryed in the churche yarde of Hellinglighe aforesayde Itm I geve unto the poore people of the parishe of Hellinglighe aforesayde iii$^{s}$ iiii$^{d}$ Itm I will unto the reparacons of the church of Hellinglighe aforesayde iii$^{s}$ iiii$^{d}$ Itm I will & bequethe unto **Agnes** my wyfe my best ffether [b]edd my best coverlet twoe blanketts a [w]hytle ffower payer of sheets a boulster & ii pyllows they to be at her [c]hoyce three kyne a lytle brasse pott a lytle pott two chests a Barrell ii vy[r]kins two keelers [a] grate kettle bounde wth Iron two seames of wheate one seame of barley two [acres] of oats growing wthin the Rayles in [Sp]ryu[?]gham [on a crease – may be a letter missing] ffylde a brewinge vate a charne a greate olde brasse panne a lytle pann a whyte be[dd] …elinge [crease in page] that hangeth over the bedd a lytle posnet three platters three pewter d[i]shes sixe bowles [&] truggs two candlesticks a salte one sylver spoone a playne bedstedle one payer of …[au]ghers [interlined – first part of word illegible] & haulfe my powl[t]ry Itm I geve unto her more ii table clothes haulfe a dozen of table napkyns [ii] pyllowe beeres h[aulfe] [my] [?]he[??]pe [probably 'hempe'] & fflaxe one peece of newe linnen cloth that is at the weavers and one peece of whyte carseye [kersey] of three yards [illeg.] haulfe of my butter & cheese haulfe the peese haulfe the hony Itm I geve u[nto] her more haulfe my hoggs my olde whyte mare haulfe the wolle in my …ow … & haulfe a [dozen] of ewe sheepe & haulfe the geese one [?]ayer & ii coshions Itm I [will] & bequith unto **John Dyker** my godson the sonne of **Will[i]am Dyker** one twelmontinge bullocke Itm I geve unto **Agnes Hert[??]** or to her two children wch she had by **Robt Hart[??]** one [c]owe [or] els ffortye shillings of lawfull Englishe moneye the …[c]hoyce to be [illeg.] myne executor Itm I w[ill] unto Roger **Brasier** the elder one weanyer bullocke Itm I will & bequeth unto my three daughter[s] **Joane Elizabeth & Thomasyne** unto eyther of them one silver spoone & my sonne **Edwarde** to t[a]ke his choyce Itm I will unto my daughter **Joane** one maultinge [?]ate that standes in the tre[?]s[o]ns Itm I will unto **Willm ffynche** [an] olde ffreese jerkyn two payer of ol[d]e hose a hatt & one payer of sh[oe]s Itm I will unto my godchildren unto everye one of them xxii$^{d}$ a pece Itm I will & bequeth unto my daughter **Joane a mylles** my eldest daughter one heyffer bullocke a twelmontinge & the vay[?] of collour blacke pyed Itm I geve unto **Elizabeth mylles** my daughter one yonge cowe of collour redd pyde & wane heap[?]d Itm I geve unto **Thomasyne ffry[??]e** my daughter one two yeringe heyffer of collour whyte Itm I geve unto **John ffrende** my daughter **Thomasyns** sonne ffyve poundes of good & lawfull money of Englande to be payed unto him at suche a tyme as he shall accomplishe his full age of one & twentye yeares [mark inserted resembling a trefoil]

moreover this is my very last will & testament [to]uchinge my landes & tenements viz I will & bequeth unto **Edwarde Akehurst** my sonne a[ll] my lands & tenements by whate name or names they ben called sett lyinge & beinge wthin the parishes of Hellinglighe & Haylsham or in what other parishe soever wthin the Realme of Englande To have & to holde the sayde landes & tents wth all & singular their appurtents unto the sayde **Edwarde** my sonne for [& duringe the] tearme of his naturall lyfe only wthout impediment [illeg.] [almost a whole line interlined at this point and

unreadable. There is a cross in the left-hand margin] and after his decease I wyll & bequeth all my sayde lands & tenements wth all & singular their appurtences unto **John Akehurst** my nephewe & sonne of the sayde **Edwarde** & to his heirs forever [remainder of the writing on this page has been crossed out] //

All the residue of my goods & chattells my dettes beinge payed my legaces & pformed & …[ corner of the paper folded over, hiding remainder of line] discharge I geve & bequeth unto my sonne **Edwarde Akeherst** whome I ordeyne & [make my] sole executor of this my last last [sic] will & testament and I will [&] ordeyne my son[n]e [in] law[e] **Thomas a mylles** & **Richarde Reade** of Ringmare my overseers of this my last will & testament & I geve unto them for their paynes xs a peece / And also I will that their charges shalbe borne by my executor whensoever they shall happen to travell aboute that probation of this my will & testament [*cross in margin*] [at this point three lines are written virtually on top of each other] Moreover I will that the sayde **Edwarde Akehurst** my sonne shall paye [illeg.] unto **[John] Akeherst** my nephewe & sonne of [the sayde] **Edwarde** [illeg.] shall come to the age of xxi yeares [illeg.] [probably just an ink blot!] ffyve poundes [illeg.] his may [illeg.] duringe that lyfe of the sayde [illeg.]

[*trefoil mark in margin*] Itm I geve unto **Sara Akeherst Margaret Hartnot Mawdlyn Act[??]** to every one of them two tegge lambes a peece Itm I geve unto **Danyell Pankherst** one tegge lambe Itm I geve unto [illeg.] Str[a]ker one tegge lambe Itm I geve [&] bequeth unto **Elizabeth Akeherst** my sonnes daughter $x^{li}$ of good & lawfull money of England to be payed unto her at such tyme as she shall come to her age of xxii years or els at the daye of her maryage wch shall first happen

Itm I geve unto **John Wyckersham Agnes Wyckersham Jane Wyckersham Debora Wyckersham & Judeth Wyckersham** to everye one of them $xx^{s}$ a peece

Provided allwayes that the sayde **Edwarde Akeherst** my sonne & executor before [illeg.] doe not prove this my last will & testament wthin three monthes next after my decease then I will that he the sayde Edwarde shall have noe benefite by this my last will & testament & I ordeyne **Thomas Wyckersham** my sonne in lawe executor of this my last will & testament & he to have the benefite of all my goods & the profitt of my landes untill [*several words crossed out*] dettes & legaces payed [*remainder of this and next four lines crossed out*]

In wytnesse whereof I the sayde **John Akeherst** have hereunto put my hande & seale in the psence of us [*signatures*] **John Akeherst** his mke **John Cras[??]ie[lee] Willm a Reede & Thos ffynkell** minister **John Goodens** mke

Probate (on reverse): 16th September 1591 [the 1 could be a 2] to **Edward Akeherst**, executor.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 1st May 2017)*

## NOTES:

People
John Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Agnes Akeherste, wife
John Dyker [Dicker], godson son of William Dyker
Agnes Hert[??] [possibly Hartnot, see additional note below]
Robert Hart[??] husband of Agnes
Roger Brasier the elder
Joane Akeherste, daughter
Elizabeth Akeherste, daughter
Thomasyne Akeherste, daughter
Edwarde Akeherste, son, Executor
Joane a mylles [Milles], eldest daughter [same as Joane above]
Elizabeth mylles [Milles], daughter [same as Elizabeth above]

Thomasyne ffrende, daughter [same as Thomasyne above]
John ffrende [Frende], son of Thomasyne, under 21 years
John Akeherste, nephew and son of Edwarde, under 21 years
Thomas a mylles [Milles], son-in-law, Overseer
Richard Read of Ringmer, Overseer
Sarah Akeherst
Margaret Hartnot
Mawdlyn Act[??] [probably Acton]
Danyell Pankherst
[illeg.] Str[a]ker
Elizabeth Akeherst, my sonnes daughter, under 22 years
John Wyckersham [Wickersham]
Agnes Wyckersham [Wickersham]
Jane Wyckersham [Wickersham]
Debora Wyckersham [Wickersham]
Judeth Wyckersham [Wickersham]
Thomas Wyckersham [Wickersham], son-in-law
John Cras[??]ie[lee] [Crashfield?] , witness
Willm a Reede [Read], witness
Thomas ffynkell [Finkle] minister, witness
John Goodens, witness

Places
Hellingly
Hailsham
Ringmer

Relevant Events
There is a will of Robert Hartnot of Hellingly with grant of probate dated 1579 (ESRO: PBT 1/1/7/128A) which may be the Robert Hart[??] mentioned in the above will, especially as there is a Margaret Hartnot mentioned in the will as well.

John Akehurst is referred to as John Akehurst the Elder in the following document:

**Conveyance for £100.** Date: 20 Mar 1589.[38]

> Robert Sydney, kt, of Penshurst, Kent, to John Akehurst the elder of Hellingly, yeoman, his son and heir Edward Akehurst, and John Akehurst, younger son of Edward Akehurst; lands and tenements called Blackstocke in Hellingly

Family Tree
See Tree 1. "Robert Akehurst of Hellingly" in Chapter 2.

[38] *Conveyance for £100*. Date: 20 Mar 1589. (ESRO: SAS/P 15)

## 7. Will of Willyam Akeherste of Wartling, 1592

(ESRO: 1/1/9/113B)
Made:
Proved: 16 Sep 1592

In the name of God amen: I **Willyam Akeherste** of Boram in the pishe of Wartlinge in the Countye of Sussex husbandman, beinge sicke in bodye but sounde of memorye god be praysed therefore, doe ordeine and make this my last will and testament in manner & forme followinge &c/ Firste I bequeathe my soule to god my maker and Redeemer, And my Bodye to be buryed in the Churche yarde of Wartlinge./ Item I bequeathe to my sonne **Jonas Akehurste** one red bedged heiffer, of the age of two yeares; one red heifer wth a white face beinge one yeare of age, foure Ewes of the beste./ My will is that these pcelles of goodes before bequeathed to my son **Jonas** shalbe delivered into the handes of my brother **Henrye Akehurste** and my brother in lawe // **Gyles Grent** wthin one moneth next after my decease, and they to put it out to proffitt for my son **Jonas** as maye be beste for him at there discretions, And my will is that the foresaid **Henrye** my brother and **Gyles** my brother in lawe shall deliver the said goodes wth the pffitte thereof unto my sonne **Jonas** when he shalbe of the age of xxjtie yeares and not before, And if my sonne **Jonas** happen to dye before he comethe to the age of xviij yeares, Then my will is the said goodes and pffitt thereof shall goe to the behoofe of my wife **Constance**, And if he dye not before the age of xviij yeares, Then the said goodes and pffittes shall goe to whome my sonne **Jonas** shall bequeathe it:/ The Reste of my goodes my debtes beinge paide I bequeathe to **Constance** my wife whome I make my whole Executrixe; And doe ordeine **John Crashfield** and my brother **Thomas Akehurste** to be my Overseers to see that this my will be fulfilled:/ The witnesses hereof are **Richard Twitt**, **Symon Reve**, and **John Bolton** scr[39]

Probate: 16th September 1592 to **Constance**, relict and executrix.

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 7 September 2018)*

### NOTES:

People
William Akehurst, husbandman, testator
Jonas Akehurst, son
Constance Akehurst, wife
Henry Akehurst, brother
Gyles Grent [Grint], brother-in-law
Thomas Akehurst, brother, overseer
John Crashfield, overseer
Richard Twitt, witness
Symon Reve, witness
John Bolton, witness

Places
Wartling
Boram

[39] Presumably 'scriptor' or 'scrivener'.

Relevant Events

William Akehurst may be the son of William Akehurst of Hellingly who left a will made in 1554 (see below). His brothers names (Thomas and Henry) match and the surname Grynt/Grint appears in the earlier will as a witness and in this later will as a brother-in-law.

Giles Grynte buried 18 Sep 1609 at Herstmonceux All Saints, "an ancient man of the parish at whose burial there was a sermon".

Daniel Grint bap. 14 May 1564 at Herstmonceux, son of Giles Grint.

Possibly Relevant

William Akers bap. 14 Apr 1577 at Wartling, son of William. This may be a brother of Jonas and if so, would be presumed to have died before 1592 as he is not mentioned in the will.

Family Tree

(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**William Akehurst,** b. c1500, d. 1554 at Hellingly
+ **Joan (--?--),** m. c1525
- **Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1526 at Hellingly
- **Joan Akehurst,** b. c1528 at Hellingly
  + **(--?--) Tomkyn,** b. c1530, m. c1552
- **Katherine Akehurst,** b. c1532 at Hellingly
  + **(--?--) Page,** b. c1530, m. c1554
- **Henry Akehurst,** b. c1535 at Hellingly
- **daughter Akehurst,** b. c1540 at Hellingly
  + **Giles Grint,** b. c1540, m. c1560
    - **Daniel Grint,** bap. 1564 at Herstmonceux
- **Thomsyn Akehurst,** b. c1540 at Hellingly
- **Agnes Akehurst,** b. c1542 at Hellingly
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. c1544 at Hellingly
- **William Akehurst,** b. c1545 at Hellingly, d. 1592 at Wartling
  + **Constance (--?--),** b. c1550, m. c1575, d. after 1613
    - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1577 at Wartling, d. before 1592
    - **Jonas Akehurst,** b. c1580, d. 1613/14 at Hellingly

Note:

1. The "daughter Akehurst" in the above tree is either Thomsyn, Agnes or Elizabeth.
2. William Akehurst is shown here as the father of William Akehurst of Hellingly who left a will made in 1592. The brother's named in William's 1592 will (Thomas and Henry) match and the surname Grynt/Grint appears in the earlier will as a witness and in this later will as a brother-in-law.

## 8. Will of Edward Akehurst of Hellingly, 1592

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/9/55B)
Made: 22 December 1591
Proved: 30 September 1592

In the name of God amen the xxijth daye of December in the yeare of our lord god 1591 I **Edward Akeherste** of the pishe of Hellinglighe in the Countye of Sussex yeoman beinge sicke of bodye but of good and pfecte remembraunce (thankes be unto god) Doe make make and ordayen thys my last will & testament in manner and forme followinge First I bequeathe my soule to Allmightye god my Creator and redeemer and my bodye to be buryed in the Churcheyard of Hellinglighe aforesaid Item I geve unto the poore people of the pishe of Hellinglighe aforesaid iijs iiijd Item towardes the repacions and mayntenaunce of the Churche of Hellinglighe vjs viijd Item I give unto **Joane** my // wife two kyne of the best, two twelmonthinge steere bullockes, One younge gray mare the best, my white horse Coulte, one sowe hogge of the best, Fower sheates, twenty sheepe, whereof the one haulfe to be Ewe sheepe & the other haulfe to be weather sheepe, One haulfe of my geese and of all my powltrye Item I geve unto her more my best Fetherbed the best boulster of Fethers, the best Coverlett, a paire of blankettes of the best, ij pillowes of the best and my best bedsteddle, One Flockebed wth a tyndle bedsteddle and all other thinges belonginge to that bedd Item I geve unto her more the One haulfe of all my Lynnen throughout, my best brasse pott, One of my best kettles and one other of the next sorte, one great brasse postnett to her to her duringe her life, and after her decease I will that postnett shall remayne to **Elizabeth Akeherste** my daughter Item I will that all my pewter at Henwards shall shalbe equallye devided by myne Overseers betwixt the said **Joane** my wife, **Harbert** my sonne and **Elizabethe** my daughter, arysinge in the whole to two dozen and a haulfe of pewter Item I geve unto the said **Joane** my wife Fower silver spoones, my litle presse, one newe Chest, standinge in the entrye at Henwardes, two other standinge in the Chamber over the parlour, one lyttle Chest more, one spitt that came from Henwardes, one drippingepann, one brandiron, one Chaffingedishe, one warmingepann, sixe trugges, one Charne, two vates, one Covell, two great Kealers, two litle milke keelers, one Cage, one great keeler, one tonn standinge on Fower legges, Fower virkyns and two barrelles, a kneadinge troughe and boultinge hutche, and two joyned Chaires Item I geve unto the said **Joane** my wife my tables wth the joyned stooles standinge in the parlour at Henwardes to her for terme of her life, and after her decease I will that the best of the said tables and stooles shall remayne to **Elizabeth** my daughter, and the other table wth the stooles shall remayne to **Harbert** my sonne Item I geve unto the said **Joane** my wife one woollen trendle and two lynnen trendles, haulfe of my tussham, five skeynes of my fine lynnen yarne and one piece of new Russett Item I geve unto the said **Joane** my wife three seames of wheate , three seames of Oates & eight bushells of maulte Item I will and bequeathe more unto the said **Joane** my wife two acres of wheate on the // ground, and half an acre of Rye on the ground, sixe Cheeses, two Crockes of butter, one hogge of Bacon, and two gallons of grease Item I will and bequeath unto **Elizabeth Akeherste** my daughter Twenty poundes of good and lawfull money of England to be paid unto her at the daie of her mariage or else at her age of xxj yeares whether of the twayne shall first happen Item I geve unto her more one Fetherbed one Fetherboulster one Coverlett one paire of blankettes two paire of sheetes two pillowes two pillow Coates Item I will & bequeathe more unto the said **Elizabeth Akeherst** my daughter one Kettle of brasse, six sheepe Item I will & bequeathe to **Harberte Akeherste** my youngest sonne Twenty poundes of good and lawfull money of England to be paid unto him at such tyme as he shall accomplishe his age of Foure and twentye yeares Item my will is that my **mother** shall have yearely duringe her naturall life five loades of wood for her fire Caried home to her wheresoever she shall happen to dwell wthin the pishe of Hellinglighe and that she shall likewise have her mare kepte for {so}long as she lyveth All the Residue of my goodes not geven nor bequeathed (my debtes and legaces beinge paid) I doe geve unto **John Akeherste** my sonne whome I doe make my Executor of this my last will and testament And I ordayne my Unckle

**Edward Akeherste** and my brother **Richard Reade** and my brother **Thomas Amylles** my Overseers of this my last will and testament, and I geve unto every one of them for their paynes iijs iiijd a peece Item I geve unto everye one of my **sisters** Children iijs iiijd a peece I will and bequeathe to my two workemen **Roger Brasier** and **John B{e}yste** [or Bryste?] iijs iiijd a peece and to my servante **George Collier** one lambe witnesses to this my last will and testament **Richard a Mylles** his marke, **John B{oo}den** his marke, **Thom[a] Wickertham**, and **Thomas Fynkell** Clerke (**Edward Akeherste** his marke)

Probate: 30th September 1592 to **John Akeherste**, son and executor.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 7 October 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People
Edward Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Joan Akehurst, wife
Elizabeth Akehurst, daughter
Harbert Akehurst, youngest son
Edward's mother (not named)
John Akehurst, son, executor
Edward Akehurst, uncle
Richard Reade, brother [in-law?]
Thomas Amylles, brother [in-law?]
Edward's sister's children (not named)
Roger Brasier, workman
John B{e}yste [or Bryste?], workman
George Collier, servant
Richard a Mylles, witness
John B{oo}den, witness
Thom[a] Wickertham [Wickersham], witness
Thomas Fynkell, Clerke, witness

Places
Hellingly
Henwards

Relevant Events
Edward Akehurst is mentioned in the following document:

**Conveyance for £100.** Date: 20 Mar 1589.[40]

> Robert Sydney, kt, of Penshurst, Kent, to John Akehurst the elder of Hellingly, yeoman, his son and heir Edward Akehurst, and John Akehurst, younger son of Edward Akehurst; lands and tenements called Blackstocke in Hellingly

Family Tree
See Tree 1. "Robert Akehurst of Hellingly" in Chapter 2.

[40] *Conveyance for £100*. Date: 20 Mar 1589. (ESRO: SAS/P 15)

## 9. Admon of John Akerste of Herstmonceux, 1592/93

(ESRO: PBT 1/3/2/154A)
Date: 4 Jan 1592/93

Quarto Januarii 1592 {???}
Emat ado bonor[um] **Johis Akerste**
dum vixit de Herstemonsex def
**Joane** eius Rel[i]c[t]e salve {&c} iurat
obligantur eod_ **Ioana** et **Edward**
**Arnold** de eod husbandman in ___ xxli
Inv{?} est exhibit ad suma ___ xiijli iijs viijd

*Fourth January 1592 {???}*
*Administration granted of the goods of* ***John Akerste*** *formerly of Herstmonceux deceased to* ***Joan*** *his relict saving {etc.} sworn*
*the said* ***Joan*** *and* ***Edward Arnold*** *of the same husbandman bound in [the sum of] __ £20*
*Inventory exhibited totalling __ £13 3s 4d*

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 15 September 2018)*

## NOTES:

People
John Akehurst
Joan Akehurst, wife, executor
Edward Arnold, husbandman

Places
Herstmonceux

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**John Akehurst,** b. c1540, d. 1592 at Herstmonceux
+ **Joan (--?--),** m. c1560, d. after 1592

## 10. Will of Agnes Akeherst of Hellingly, 1595

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/9/359)
Made: 18 August 1593
Proved: June 1595 (day missing due to hole in paper)
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1885744; image no: 71)

In the name of god Amen The xviiith daye of August in the yeare of our lorde god 1593 I **Agnes Akeherst** of the parishe of Hellinglighe in the County of Sussex wydowe beinge sicke in bodye but of good & perfect remembrannce (thanks be unto god) doe ordeyne & make this my last will & testament in manner & forme followinge ffyrste I bequeathe my soule unto Almightye god my creator through the death & mediation of his sonne Jesus Christe my only saviour & redeemer And my bodye to be buryed in the churche yarde of Hellighlighe aforesayde Itm I will unto the poore people of the parishe of Hellighlighe aforesayde vis viiid to be distributed at the discretion of my executor Itm I give unto **John ffrende** my daughters sonne one cage a spytt one gridiron & two sheepe all wch things are in the custodye of **John ffrende** his father Itm I give unto **Thomasyne ffrende** my daughter my best redd petticoate Itm I give unto **John ffrende** my sonne in lawe one cowe one twelmontinge bullocke wch are in his custodye Itm I give unto **Agnes ffrende** his daughter xs of money wch is in the handes of her ffather Itm I give unto **Joane ffrende** daughter of the sayde **John ffrende** one chest one lynnen wheele Itm I give unto **marye milles** daughter of **Richarde a milles** my sonne in lawe one cowe wch is in the custodye of her ffather Itm I give unto **Anna milles** daughter of the sayde **Richarde** one weanyear bullocke wch is in the handes of her ffather Itm I give unto **Elizabeth milles** one cowe wch is in the custodye of her husbande Itm I give unto **Returne milles** one weanyer bullocke wch is in the k[eep]inge of his ffather Itm I give unto my daughter **Elizabeth milles** more one ffether bedd wth a bolster of ffethers a payer of blankets & an olde blankett & an olde whytle Itm I give unto **John milles & Elias milles** xiis to be divided betwixt them wch xiis is in the handes of **Richarde milles** their ffather Itm I give unto **Elizabeth milles** my daughters daughter one pewter platter & one pewter dishe // Itm I give and bequeath to the fyve children of **Thomas Wyckersham** my sonne in lawe xls of money wch is in the handes of the sayd **Thomas theire ffather** (that is to saye) to the ffower elder of them vis viid a peece & to the youngest of them xiiis iiiid Itm I give unto **Richarde a milles** my sonne in lawe one table Itm I give unto **Sara milles** daughter of **Thomas a milles** my sonne in lawe one chest one pewter platter one pewter dishe one salt seller & a sawcer Itm I give & bequeathe unto **Phebe milles** one pewter platter one pewter dishe and one candlesticke of brasse and one hooke seamed sheete two pyllowcoats ffower table napkyns Itm I give unto **Comforte milles** one weanyer bullocke wch is in the custodye of **John ffrende** Itm I give & bequeath to my syster **Anne Swane** my best blacke gowne one kerchiefe one neckerchiefe a payer of hose & shoes one hatt Itm I give unto **Thomasyne Snayle** one redd petticote one course canvas sheete a payer of hose & shoes Itm I give unto **Willm Harmers wyfe** one course canvas sheete Itm I give unto **Roger Brasiers wyfe** one olde russet gowne All the residue of my goods not given nor bequeathed I doe give unto **Thomas a milles** my sonne in lawe whome I doe make my executor of this my last will & testament Wytnesses to this my last will & testament **Thomas Redheade & Tho: ffynkell** minister

Probate: ?? [Date missing due to a hole in the paper] June 1595 – executor's name could be Thos but the surname is illegible.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 3rd May 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People

Agnes Akehurst, widow, testatrix
John Frende, daughter's son
Thomasyne Frende, daughter
John Frende, son-in-law
Agnes Frende, daughter of John Frende
Joane Frende, daughter of John Frende
Mary Milles, daughter of Richard Milles
Richard Milles, son-in-law
Anna Milles, daughter of Richard Milles
Elizabeth Milles, wife of Richard Milles, daughter of Agnes
Returne Milles, son of Richard Milles [the name Returne is confirmed in church records]
John Milles, son of Richard Milles
Elias Milles, son of Richard Milles
Thomas Wickersham, son-in-law [has five children]
Thomas a Milles, son-in-law (Executor)
Sara Milles, daughter of Thomas a Milles
Phebe Milles
Comforte Milles
Anne Swane, sister
Thomasyne Snayle
William Harmer's wife
Roger Brasier's wife
Thomas Redheade (witness)
Thomas Fynkell [Finkle], minister (witness)

Places

Hellingly

Family Tree

See Tree 1. "Robert Akehurst of Hellingly" in Chapter 2.

## 11. Will of Thomas Akeherst of Hailsham, 1601

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/10/265)
Made: 10 Feb 1599/1600
Proved: 25 Apr 1601

In the name of God Amen The Tenth day of February in the yeare of our Lord god one Thousand five Hundred Nynety nyne I **Thomas Akeherst** of the parrishe of Haylsham in the County of Sussex yeoman beinge sick in Body but of good & pfect remembrance doe make & // ordeyne this my last will & Testament in manner and forme followinge First I will & bequeathe my Soule unto the handes of Allmightie god my maker and redeemer by whome I hope to bee saved; And my Body to bee buried in the Churche yarde of Haylesham aforesaid. And as Concerninge my worldly goodes wch yt hath pleased god to lend mee duringe this life, I will & dispose them in manner & forme followinge First I will & bequeath unto **Suzan** my wife my best bed and all thinges belonginge unto him Item I give & bequeath unto her one great Joyned Chest, Item one little Joyned Chest, Also one Box. Item six payre of Sheetes, Also unto her two payre of the best pillowcoates. Item I will & bequeath unto **John Harmer** my sonne in lawe one three yeeringe heiffer Cole black white backt To bee deliv[er]ed unto him wthin one moneth next after my Decease. All the rest of my goodes & Chattells my Debtes & Legacies beinge payd I give and bequeath unto my sonne **Edward Akeherste** whome I make my sole Executor {of} this my last will and testament And I desire **Henry Akeherst** & **John Crashfolde** to bee my Overseers to see this my last will & Testament pformed And I give unto them Twenty pence A daye for every day that they shall travell about this my last will and Testament Wittnesses to this my last will & Testament **Allen Wickinges Robert Sted{n??}** & **George Bachelor Thomas Akeherst** his ma{rk}

Probate: 25th April 1601 to **Edward Akehurst**, son and executor.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 7 September 2018)*

### NOTES:

People
Thomas Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Susan Akehurst, wife
John Harmer, son-in-law
Edward Akehurst, son, executor
Henry Akehurst, overseer
John Crashfold, overseer
Allen Wickings, witness
Robert Sted{n??}, witness
George Bachelor[Batchelor], witness
Thomas Akehurst, witness

Places
Hailsham

Relevant Events
Edward Akeherst of Hailsham and Sarah Milles of Hellingly obtained a marriage licence on 20 Jun 1607 (Archdeaconry of Lewes). Sponsors: Edward Akeherst and Nicholas Cob of Hailsham, yeoman. Presumed to be Thomas's son Edward.

Mary Harmer, "wife of John", buried 24 Feb 1602 at Hailsham St Mary. This would be Thomas Akehurst's daughter.
(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
See Tree 1. "Robert Akehurst of Hellingly" in Chapter 2.

## 12. Will of Joan Akeherst of Hellingly, 1604

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/12/21)
Made: 1 February 1602
Probate: 8 July 1604
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1885745; images: 817- 820)

In the name of God Amen the first day of ffebruary Anno dm scdm computacoem Ecclie Anglicanae [in the year of our Lord according to the computation of the Anglican church] 1602 and in the five & fortieth yere of the reigne of our sovaine Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queene of England ffrannce & Ireland Defender of the Faith &c I **Joane Akeherst** of Hellingleigh in the county of Sussex widdowe in good health & remembrannce thanks be to god doe ppare ordeyne & make ready this my present last will & testamt in mann & forme following that is to say ffirst I comend my soule to Allmightie god and my body to be buryed in the churchyard of Hellingleigh aforesaid as nere to **my husband Shepard** as convenyently may be Item I give to the poore people of the said pish of Hellingleigh tenn shillings to be distributed at my buriall Item I give to every of my godchildren xii$^{d}$ a pece Item I give & bequeath to **John Akeherst my sonne** five shillings fower of my best silver spoones & my great ioyned chayre for terme of his life and after his decease to **his sonne John** Item I give & bequeath to the said John Akeherst the younger, sonne of my said sonne John, one great copp kettle Item I give & bequeath unto **Mary Akeherst my goddaughter** [and] daughter of my said sonne John Akeherst my best fetherbed & one of my best pillowberes Item I give & bequeath to **Elizabeth Goodwyn one of my daughte[r] Glasners children** my best gowne my best hatt my best petticote my best silke apron and a paire of sheets All the residue of goodes chattells houshold stuff & moveables my will mynd & meaning is that they shall wholly redound remaine & be converted to the benefitt & comoditie of my sonne **Harbert** by the delivery of my overseers of this my last will & testamt hereafter named shall have in his own custody & ymploymt & to his owne prop use benefitt & comoditye ffowrescore poundes of ready mony untill such tyme as fower children of his body lawfully to be begotten shall first attaine to the ages of twenty & two yeres and as his said children shall severally attaine to their said ages of xxii yeres then I will to each of them twenty pounds a pece of the said fower score pounds That is to saie to that of his children wch shall first attaine to thage of xxii yeres twenty pounds to that other of his said children wch shall next attaine to the like age twenty pounds to the third of his said children wch shall thirdly attaine to the like age twenty pounds and to that fowrth of his said children wch shall fowrthly attaine to the like age twenty pounds And least my said sonne should wastefully & ymprovidently spend & consume the said fower score pounds wherby his children might be frustrate of the benefitt of my will & good meaning towards them before declared I will that he my said sonne Harbert together wth two sufficient suertyes such as my said sonne **John Akeherst** shall accept of before he doe receave the said some of fowrescore pounds of my said overseers // shall enter into band of one hundred & twenty pounds to my said sonne **John Akeherst** his executors or assignes for the true pformance of the sume my will & true paymt of the said fower score pounds to his said children in manr & forme aforesaid and if the said **Harbert** my sonne before the end of three months next ensuing after my decease cannot procure sufficient security or doe refuse to doe then my will is that my said sonne **John Akeherst** his executors or assignes shall the custody & ymploymt of the said sume of fower score pounds so as before he or they doe execute the said sume of my overseers he the said John his executors or assignes wth two sufficient suertyes such as my overseers shall accept of doe enter into band of one hundred & twenty pounds to my said sonne **Harbert** aswell for the true paymt of the said fowrescore pounds to fower of the children of the said Harbert at their sevall ages in such manr & forme as is before menconed & declared by my said sonne **Harbert** to be done as also yerely from the tyme of receipt of the said fowrescore pounds by him the said John to paie unto my said sonne **Harbert** after the rate of five pounds proffitt for the said fowrescore pounds yerely untill the said fower of the said Harbert shall attayne to their sevall ages and shall have their said sevall

porcons of twenty pounds a pece paid unto them yf the said **Harbert** shall so long live abating nevertheless unto the said **Harbert** out of the said five pounds proffitt for evy twenty pounds so paid to his said children after the rate of xxv$^{s}$ a yere Item I will that my said sonne **Harbert** by the delivery of my said overseers shall have in his owne custody possession & ymploymt & to his owne use & benefitt during his life & after his decease to the use of his fower children first attayning to their said sevall ages of xxii yeres betwene them equally to be devyded all theis pcells of moveables & houshold stuff following vdlct [videlicet (that is to say)] one ioyned presse two great ioyned chests my least ioyned chayre eight paire of sheets fower tableclothes tenne table napkyns three pillowberes two yardkerchefs one fetherbed one flockbed three fetherbolsters two pillows fower blankets two coverlets a great brasse pot a great brasse kettle a lesser brasse kettle two brasse cast posnets an yron morter & a pestle two pewter candlesticks seaven pewter platters sixe pewter dishes one pewter frutedish two pewter salts one porrenger a pewter bason sixe silver spoones fower cushons an yron spitt and my best bedsted so as the said **Harbert** before receipt thereof doe enter into sufficient band to my said sonne **John Akeherst** for the safe custody & delivy of the said pcelle of moveables & houshold stuff unto his said fower children after his decease betwene them equally to be devyded as is aforesaid and for the better execucon of this my will in that behalf I doe ordeyne **Richard Ellys** of Hastings yoman **John Read** of Ringmer in the couny [sic] of Sussex yoman and **William Read** of Lewis in the said county glover to be my overseers of this my last will & testamt and doe likewise constitute name & appoint them the said **Richard John & William** to be my executors of trust of this my present last will untill such tyme as the said Harbert have entred into such bands as before I have lymitted & willed for true pformance of my said will on his pte & behalfe & then ymediately I will that he the said **Harbert** shalbe my sole executor thensforth forever & yf he cannot procure or doe refuse to enter into such bands as aforesaid then my said overseers shall remayne my executors of trust as is aforesaid // untill the said **John Akeherst** my sonne shall have entred into such band as I have before declared for true paymt of the said ffowrescore pounds and the yerely proffitt therof in manr & forme before expressed and then ymediately I will that he the said **John Akehurst** shalbe my sole executor thensforth forever and in remembrance of the goodwill & paynes of my said overseers & executors of trust I give to each of them three shillings & fower pence a pece & what soe[ver] charges in law or travelling expences they shalbe at or susteyne about the due execucon & pformance of this my last will in manr & forme aforesaid I will that it shalbe lawfull to & for them & eny of them to have & reteyne out of my goods & chattells & therof or of eny pte & pcell thereof fully to satisfie & pay themselves In witnes wherof I have hereunto sett my hand & seale geven the day & yere first above written

The mke of **Joane Akeherst**

Sealed signed & delived in the pnce of

**Richard Milles & Thomas ffynkle** clerk

**Richarde Milles** his mke

Probate: 8th July 1604 to **Harbert Akeherst**, son and executor.

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 6th May 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
Joan Akeherst, widow, testatrix
Shepard Akeherst, husband (deceased)
John Akeherst, son
John Akeherst, grandson, son of John
Mary Akehurst, goddaughter, daughter of John
(?) Glasner, daughter
Elizabeth Goodwyn, daughter of Glasner
Harbert Akeherst, son, executor
Richard Ellys, yeoman of Hastings, overseer
John Read, yeoman of Ringmer, overseer
William Read, glover of Lewes, overseer
Richard Milles, witness
Thomas Fynkle [Finkle], witness

Places
Hellingly
Hastings
Ringmer
Lewes

Relevant Events
Burial not found in indexes (which start at 1607 at Hellingly).

Other
**Akehurst v Boord**. Date: 1598. (TNA: C 3/255/36).
Plaintiffs: Joan Akehurst widow.
Defendants: Stephen Boord.
Subject: property in Hellingly, Sussex.
Document type: bill only.

Family Tree
See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" in Chapter 2.

## 13. Will of Henry Ackherst of Herstmonceux, 1606

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/12/168B)
Made: 28 May 1597
Proved: 9 Nov 1606
www.familysearch.org (film: 1885746; image: 312)

In the name of god Amen the xxviij daye of maye 1597 I **Henry Ackherst** of herstm{unn}ses being sicke of body but of good and pfect reme_branc[e] thanckes be to god do make this my last will and testament in maner and forme following First I committ my soule into the handes of almightye god and do hope to be saved by the dathe and passion of Jesus christ I comitt my body to the earthe in hope of a joifull resurextion Item I geve to **Catherin** my wiyfe x$^{li}$ in mony and one Cowe at her owne choyesse I will that she shalbe {boar}ded by my executor so long as she dothe lick of her boarde and if she dothe not lick of her board then I will my executor shall paye her forty shillinges yearlye towards her boarde so longe as she dothe kepe her selfe a wedow Item I geve to her owne usse duringe her liffe my fetherbede and all that belonges to it and after her dis{c}eace the saide bede & that belong to it to remaine to my executor I geve to her one ewe & one lamb at her choysse I geve to her more one littel brasse kettel one brasse Stupnett iiij truges one littel ould Irone pott & ij platters & ij pewter dishes one candelstick one paile Item I geve to **Judethe** my dawghter vj$^{li}$ xiij$^{s}$ iiij$^{d}$ at the daye of her mariage or within one yeare after my diseace whiche shall first happen I geve to her one motly twelfmonthinge hefer{e} one ewe and one lambe Item I geve to ~~Judethe~~ **Tamysin** my dawghter vj$^{li}$ xiij$^{s}$ iiij$^{d}$ to be paide to her // at the daye of her marriage or [some words scored through] or within one and halfe after my diseace which shall first happen I geve her one ewe and one lambe & iij ewe teges Item I geve to **Susane** my dawghter vj$^{li}$ xiij$^{s}$ iiij$^{d}$ to be paid to her at the daye of her mariage or at her age of xix yeares whiche shall first happen Item I geve to **William {d}ickare** one twelf monthing one blacke whitt backed stere I geve to **John dickar** his sonne one ewe and one lambe and to **William** dickar his sonne one tegge sheape and to **Sara dickar** his dawghter one sheap tege It I geve to **Bartholomew weeckes** one rede weneling bullocke I geve to **John weeckes** his sonne one ewe & one lambe & to **Elizabeth weeckes** his dawghter one twelfmonth thing shepe all rest of my goodes not geven nor bequethed I geve to **William** my sonne whome I make sole executore of this my last will and testament and I apoint to be overseeres **William dickare** and and **Bartholomew weeckes**

Wittnesses at the makinge hereof

**Giles {??}iat William h{a}llocke** and **John {?}ashfield**

[on reverse]

| debts owing to Jonas Ackhurst | vli<br>~~iiijli xiijs iiijd~~ |
|---|---|
| to Richard a ford {t} at michelmas next | xli xs xd |
| to Anthony hotherope | xli iijs[41] |
| to Edmund gower | iijli xviijs iiijd |
| to william dickare | xxxs viijd |
| to mr dick{g}enson for tyethe | xs vjd |
| [in margin] 15li 9s 3d | |
| to mr smithe for tyethes | iijs ixd |
| to mr finbell for tyethes owing to him | xiid |

[41] In the original the 'li' runs straight into the 'iii' but I assume this is meant to follow the pattern of the other sums shown and be £10 3s rather than 44s.

| | |
|---|---|
| bartholomew wecks | xvs |
| John fuller | ls |

Probate: 9th November 1606 to **William Ackherst**, son of the deceased.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 22 August 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People
Henry Ackherst, testator
Catherine Ackherst, wife
William Ackherst, son, executor
Judethe [Judith] Ackherst, daughter
Tamysin [Tamsin, short for Thomasina or Thomasine] Ackherst, daughter
Susanne Ackherst, daughter
William Dickar [Dicker]
John Dickar [Dicker], son of William
William Dickar [Dicker], son of William
Sara Dickar [Dicker], daughter of William
Bartholomew Weekes
John Weekes, son of Bartholomew
Elizabeth Weekes, daughter of Bartholomew

Places
Herstmonceux

Relevant Events
Henry Akers buried 30 Aug 1606 at Herstmonceux.
Judith Akeherst bap. 31 Oct 1574 at Herstmonceux daughter of Henry Akeherst.
Elizabeth Akherst bap. 23 Mar 1577/78 at Herstmonceux daughter of Henry Akherst.
Tamsyn Akeherst bap. 30 Aug 1579 at Herstmonceux daughter of Henry Akeherst.
Susan Akherst bap. 1 Jul 1582 at Hertmonceux daughter of Henry Akherst.
Elizabeth Akherst buried 12 Sep 1578 at Herstmonceux "dau. of Henry"

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Henry Akehurst**, b. c1550, d. 1606 at Herstmonceux
+ **Catherine (--?--)**, b. c1550, m. c1574
- **Judith Akehurst**, bap. 1574 at Herstmonceux
- **Elizabeth Akehurst**, bap. 1577 at Herstmonceux, d. 1578 at Herstmonceux
- **Tamsyn Akehurst**, bap. 1579 at Herstmonceux
- **William Akehurst**, b. c1580, d. 1641 at Herstmonceux
  + **unknown spouse**
    - **Margaret Akehurst**, b. c1610 at Herstmonceux?, d. 1660 at Crowhurst
      + **Henry Russell**, m. 1632 at Herstmonceux, d. 1653 at Crowhurst
    - **Henry Akehurst**, b. c1615
  + **Eleanor Lake**, b. c1580, m. 1630 at Herstmonceux, d. 1642 at Herstmonceux
- **Susan Akehurst**, bap. 1582 at Herstmonceux

## 14. Admon of Edward Akehurst of Jevington, 1607

(ESRO: PBT 1/3/3/100A)
Date: 1 June 1607

Primo die mensis Junii, 1607
[in margin] Renu[n]ciatio
Quo die comparuit psonalit[e]r Mr **Robertus Ottring** gn_ et exh{u}it proca{???} fin_
pro **Maria Akehurst** Relicta **Edwardi Akehurst** nup[er] de Jevington defunc{?}
ac noie procu_{r}io dce Marie ex Certis Ca{n}ss &c Ad ad[mini]stratio{m} bonor_
dicte defuncti pl{a}_ pubce Judicial{?} et simpl{r}_ renucia{v}it
deinde Mr **Willmus Innians** Clerus Arti{?}_ Mr
sur &c comisit Admm bonor_ eiusdem defuncti
**Johanni Akehurst** fratri &c dicti defuncti et
Creditor_ &c in debita Iuris forma iurato, salvo &c
Inv{m} extendit ad sum_a ____ Cxli vs viijd
Ob. idem **Jo. Akehurst** et **Willms Wade** de
Willmington yeoman in ____ CCli
[A note in the left hand margin possibly refers to the date the accounts were submitted.]

*The first day of the month of June 1607*
*Renunciation*
*Which day appeared personally Mr Robert Ottring gent and {exhibited} the final decree*
*on behalf of Mary Akehurst the relict of Edward Akehurst formerly of Jevington deceased and nominated proctor of the said Mary in the matter of certain causes etc. {for} the administration of the goods of the said deceased* [not sure about this part but she clearly renounced the executorship/administration]
*whereupon Mr William Innians clerk Master of Arts surrogate etc. committed administration of the goods of the said deceased to John Akehurst brother etc. of the said deceased and of the credits etc. first sworn in due form of law notwithstanding etc.*
*Inventory to the total sum of ___ £110 5s 8d*
*The said John Akehurst and William Wade of Wilmington yeoman being bound in [the sum of] ___ £200*

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 7 October 2018)*

## 14A. Acquittance, Edward Akeherst of Jevington, 1608

(ESRO: PBT 1/3/3/127A)
Date: 11 June 1608

Undecimo die Junii pred
Quo die comp[ar]uit p[er]sonal[ite]r **Johes**
**Akeherst** Administrator bonor_ &c **Eduardi**
**Akeherst** du[m] vixit parochie de Jevington
defuncti et exhibuit Comp[ar]{u}m_ in scriptis
de et sup[er] Administracoe_ sua in bonis &c
pred Et allegavit omn{ium} et singul{arum}*
eodem contenta fuisse et esse vera ac

habita gesta et expedita prout in eodem
Continetur fecitq[ue] fidem ad sancta &c de
fideli exposicoe_ sumar_ respective in eodem
Contentar_ ac petit se ab omne ulteriori{?}
Compo_ &c Dimitti_ Jusq[ue] &c {???} Mr
**Willmus Innians** Presbiter Art{??} Mr Surrogatus
&c inspecto et examinato ea_ Computo
pred Ac Comperiens dca_ Computantem
hucusque bene et fideliter Administrasse Bona
&c dci_ , Ita quod penes eum
remanet nil sed est in surplusagio Ac
exposuit ultra vires Inventarium sumam
Trigint_ sex Librar_ quatuor solidor_ et
quatuor denarior_ legalis monete Anglie
E{un}dem Computantem ab omni ulteriori
Computo &c Dumodo de Dolo &c salvoque
&c Dimittend Decrevit et Dimisit

* partly obliterated by fault in scanned document

The eleventh day of June aforesaid

*Which day appeared personally **John Akehurst** administrator of the goods etc. of **Edward Akehurst** formerly of the parish of Jevington deceased and exhibited an account in writing of and about the administration of his goods etc. aforesaid And he alleged all and singular in it contained to have been and to be true and {held} performed and carried out as contained therein he also made oath on the holy etc. of the true {record} of the respective sums therein contained and petitioned that he be discharged from all further accounting etc. {demising} etc. and {right} etc. {???} [Whereupon?] **Mr William Innians** priest MA surrogate etc. the said account having been inspected and examined by him found that the said account had thus far well and faithfully administered the goods etc. of the said deceased So that his {penalty/compensation?} remains nil but is {superfluous/ irrelevant to the cause?} and he had exhibited without authority[42] an inventory to the sum of thirty six pounds four shillings and four pence of lawful money of England The said account [from all further continuance of the] {accounting} etc. Provided that from {fraud} etc. saving that etc. Demising[43] he {???}[44] and discharged[45] [The executor paid his fees and was discharged?]*

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 18th October 2018)*

[42] Unofficially or out of court?
[43] Or could refer to payment of an ecclesiastical court fee
[44] literally 'grew less'
[45] Can also mean 'demised' but I think dismissed makes more sense in the context.

**NOTES:**

People
Edward Akehurst, testator
Mary Akehurst, wife
John Akehurst, brother
William Wade of Wilmington, yeoman
Robert Ottring, gent
William Innians, priest, clerk

Places
Jevington
Wilmington

Relevant Events
Edward Ackurst was buried 14 May 1607 at Jevington St Andrew.
Edward Ackarst married Mary Wymsherst on 16 Jun 1587 at Warbleton.

Family Tree
See Tree 8. "Folkington & Jevington" in Chapter 2.

## 15. Will of Thomas Akeherst of Hailsham, 1612

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/14/31B)
Made: 3 May 1612
Proved: 8 Jun 1612
www.familysearch.org (film: 1885786; image: 42)

In the name of god Amen the Third day of May in the Tenth yeare of the raigne of our gracious sovaigne Lord James by the grace of god of England France and Ireland {the first}[46] Defender of the faythe &c and of Scotland the Fyve and Forteeth 1612 I **Thomas Akeh{yrst}** of Haylsha[m] in the County of Sussex and Diocesse and wthin the Libertie {of} Pevensey Jurate being Sick & Weake of body but of sound & pfect memorie Thankes bee {to} god doe make & ordeyne this my last Will and Testament in manner & forme following First I com[m]end & bequeathe my Sowle into the handes of Allmightie god my most mercifull Savyour & Redeemer trusting only throught his death and passion to have free pdon and remission of all my Synnes And my body I will to the Earth to be Christianlike buryed {in} the Churchyard of Haylsham above said Itm I gyve unto the reparations of the Church of Haylsha[m] above said Three Shillinges fower pence Itm I gyve unto the Poore People of the said pish Three Shillinges fower pence Itm I gyve unto **Alice Akeherst** my daughter Fortie poundes to bee payd unto her at the Feast of St John the Baptist next Coming after my discease or at the day of her Mariage which shall first happen to come Itm I gyve unto **Eve Akeherst** my daughter Fortie poundes to bee payd unto her wthin one yeare next after my discease Itm I gyve unto **Martha Akeherst my daughter** Fortie poundes to bee payd unto her at her age of Twenty yeares or the day of her Mariage which shall first happen to come Itm I Will and bequeath ~~unto my~~ to **Margaret** my loveing wyefe All that my Howse wherein I now dwell wth the barne Orchardes Closes easementes & Comodities thereunto belonging and all my landes lyeing in the pishes of Haylsham & Hellingligh during the terme of her naturall lyfe And my mind and will is That Shee the said **Margaret** my wyefe shall mayntayne and kepe the said dwelling howse bar{ne} Orchardes and all and singular the Landes afforesaid well and sufficiently from tyme {to} tyme and at all tymes during her naturall lyfe amended sustayned and repayred Itm I gyve unto the said **Margaret** my wyefe yearely during her naturall lyfe for the mayntenance of her Fyre Six coardes of wood wth the spray thereof to bee taken fower Coardes a yeare uppon my Landes in Hellingligh and two coardes a yeare uppon my Landes in Haylsham and shee to coppise in that ground where shee felleth for wood in Hellingligh And to take for two coardes of wood as aforesaid in Haylsham by topping or lopping the trees not hurting the leew & defence of the howse & barne Itm my mind and will is that **Margaret** my said wyefe Shall paye unto my two Sonnes **Robert Akeherst** & **John Akeherst** to etch of them Fortie Shillinges a peece yearely for and towards theire mayntenance when they shall accomplish & attayne unto theire severall ages of One and Twenty yeares so long as she the said **Margaret** lyveth to bee payd unto them halfe yearely by even and equall ptions Itm I gyve and bequeath unto **Robert** my Sonne affor named my Barne & landes in Hellingligh afforesaid imediatly after my wyves discease to him and to his heires forever Itm I gyve and bequeath {un}to **John Akeherst** my Sonne & to his heires forever All my Dwelling howse barne & ediffices orchardes closes easmentes and comodities thereunto belonging and all my landes in Haylsha[m] afforesaid imediatly after my wyves discease afforesaid All the rest of my Goodes & Moveables not before gyven and bequeathed I gyve and bequeath unto **Margaret** my wyefe whome I make & ordayne the whole and sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament And I appoy[nt] my loveing freindes **Mr Rychard Kentsley** and my brother in law **Mr Roger Tanner** the overseers of this my last Will and Testament and I gyve to etch of them for theire paynes Six Shillinges and eight pence a peece And th{u}se I fynish & conclude my last Will and Testament in manner and forme before expressed

[46] The right-hand edge of the page is damaged and some text is missing here and in other places.

[Signature] **Thomas Akeherst**
Present at the makeing reading and declaring of this psent Will
**John Collingh{a}m** and **Thomas Woodd** Clerke Curate of Haylsha[m]
The marke of **John Collingham**

Probate (written on reverse): 8th June 1612 **Margaret Akehurst**, widow and executrix.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 25 August 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People
Thomas Akehurst, Jurat, testator
Margaret Akehurst, his wife, executrix
Alice Akehurst, his daughter
Eve Akehurst, his daughter
Martha Akehurst, his daughter
Robert Akehurst, his son
John Akehurst, his son
Roger Tanner, brother-in-law
Richard Kentsley, friend
John Collingham, witness
Thomas Wood, clerk curate of Hailsham, witness

Places
Hailsham
Hellingly
Wilmington
Peasmarsh
Jevington
Willingdon
Lewes
Westham

Relevant Events
Thomas Akherst buried 4 May 1612 at Hailsham, "Jurat".
Thomas Ackherst bap. 31 Jan 1585/86 at Hailsham, son of Thomas Ackherst.
Alice Ackeherst bap. 22 Oct 1587 at Hailsham, dau. Thomas Ackeherst.
Frances[sic] Ackers bap. 16 Aug 1590 at Hailsham, son of Thomas Ackers (buried 1604).
Eva Ackeherst bap. 28 Jan 1592/93 at Hailsham, dau. Thomas Ackeherst.
Robert Ackeherst bap. 25 Jan 1595/96 at Hailsham, son of Thomas Ackeherst (buried 1614).
John Akherste bap. 1 Jul 1599 at Hailsham, son of Thomas Akherste.
Martha Akherst bap. 12 Dec 1602 at Hailsham, dau. of Thomas Akherst.
Nycolas Akherst bap. 1 Mar 1606/07 at Hailsham, son of Thomas Akherst (buried 1607).

Other Events that look to be relevant

Robert Akhurst buried 30 Sep 1614 at Hailsham, "son of Thomas".

Francis Akherst buried 28 Jan 1604 at Hailsham, "son of Thomas"

Nicholas Akherste buried 26 Jul 1607 at Hailsham, "son of Thomas"

John Akehurst buried 2 Sep 1658 at Hailsham, "the elder".

Alice Akehurst of Hailsham and Edward Paynter of the same parish, glover, obtained a marriage licence on 12 May 1612 (Archdeaconry of Lewes).

Alice Akehurst of Hailsham married Edward Paynter of the same parish, glover, on 26 May 1612 at Hailsham by licence.

John Akehurst of Wilmington and Joan Trapson of Peasmarsh obtained a marriage licence on 3 Jul 1623 (Archdeaconry of Lewes). Sponsores John Akehurst and Edward Paynter, Hailsham, glover.

John Akehurst and Joan Thrapson married 8 Jul 1623 at Peasmarsh.

Eva Akehurst of Hailsham and James Huit of Westham, obtained a marriage licence on 11 Feb 1613/14 (Archdeaconry of Lewes).

Eve Akehurst married James Heweat on 14 Feb 1613/14 at Hailsham.

Martha Akehurst of Wilmington and Elias Swane of Hailsham, yeoman, obtained a marriage licence on 14 Jun 1627 (Archdeaconry of Lewes).

Martha Akehurst married Elias Swaine on 19 Jun 1627 at Wilmington.

Roger Tanner of Westham and Eve Maunser of Jevington obtained a marriage licence on 22 April 1596 (Archdeaconry of Lewes). Sponsors: Richard Hodge miller Willingdon, Richard Picknett yeoman, Cliffe Lewes.

Roger Tanner married Eve Mannsell on 26 Apr 1596 at Westham, Sussex.

(all above events from the SFHG indexes)

Family Tree

See Tree 4. "Hailsham, Alfriston, West Firle" in Chapter 2.

## 16. Will of Agnes Ayhurst of Lewes, 1613

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/14/115B)
Made: 4 July 1613
Proved: 24 July 1613
www.familysearch.org (film: 1885786; image: 535)

In the name of God Amen the fourth daie of Julie 1613 I **Agnes Ayhurst** of Lewes in the Countie of Sussex widowe being sicke & weake of bodie but of whole mynd & memorie (thankes be to God) doo ordeyne & make my last will & testament as followeth First I bequeth my soule to Almightie God my maker and to my onelie Savior & Redeemer Jesus Christ by whose death & passion I doubt not but my soule shall have a place amongst his elect in the kingdome of heaven and my bodie I comytt to the earth to be buried by the discrecon of myne Executors hereafter named And towching the disposition of that small porcon of goodds wch it hath pleased God to bestowe upon me my will & mynd is that my Executors shall sell the same to the best value they can and the money coming of the sale of all the said gooddes and all money owing unto me my debtes being first paid I will myne Executors shall put forth to the best benifitt and the lone or encrease that they can make thereof I will and desire them to bestowe upon my daughter **Anable Kinge** As my gift and legacie to her And if my said daughter happen to survive **John Kinge**[47] now her husband then I desire my Executors of the esp[ec]ial trust & confidence I repose in them to pay over unto my said daughter **Anable** all such some & somes of money my debts being first paid as they shall make of the sale of my said gooddes or shall otherwise receyve of any pson or psons indebted unto me But if my daughter happen to die before the said **John Kinge** her husband Then I will & desire myne Executors to give & distribute the some & somes of money aforesaid unto **Agnes** and **Elizabeth** the daughters of my said daughter by equall porcons as my gift and legacie And if the said **Agnes** & **Elizabeth** or either of them happen to die before the said **Anable** their mother Then I desire my said Executors to paie the porcon of her or them so dying unto the brother & Sisters of the said **Agnes** and **Elizabeth** that shalbe then lyving Provided alwaies & my meaning is that my daughter Anable shall have & enioye to her owne proper use all such gooddes of myne as nowe are in her dwelling house and myne not to make or meddle wth sale of them And I ordeyne & make my trustie & loving Freindes **William Reade** & **John Kinge** Executors of my last will & testament In witnes whereof I have set my hand & seale

Theise being witnesses
**Robert {hac?w}**
**Edward Stee{?}**

Probate: 24th July 1613 to **William Reade** and **John Kinge**, executors.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 28 August 2018)*

[47] I think it's Kinge rather than Ringe – it looks more like a K in the grant of probate.

**NOTES:**

People
Agnes Ayhurst, widow, testator
Anable [Annabelle?] Kinge, daughter
John Kinge, Anable's husband, executor
Agnes, daughter of Anable
Elizabeth, daughter of Anable
William Reade, friend
Robert {hac?w}, witness
Edward Stee{?}, witness

Places
Lewes

Relevant Events
Ann Ayers was buried 6 Jul 1613 at Lewes St Michael. There are no Ayhursts in the early Lewes burial registers but there are other Ayers.
Agnes Aier married John Ringe [Kinge?] on 4 Apr 1597 at Lewes All Saints.
(SFHG indexes).

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**(--?--) Ayhurst/Ayers,** d. before 1613
+**Agnes (--?--),** m. c1570, d. 1613 at Lewes
└── **Anable Ayers,** b. c1575 at Lewes?
+ **John Ringe/Kinge,** m. 1597 at Lewes
├── **Agnes Ringe/Kinge,** b. c1600
└── **Elizabeth Ringe/Kinge,** b. c1605

## 17. Will of Harbert Akerst of Hellingly, 1613/14

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/14/183)
Made: 19 January 1613/14
Proved: 15 March 1613/14
www.FamilySearch.org (film: 1885786; image: 319)

In the name of god Amen Januarye the xix$^{th}$ Anno Domini 1613 I **Harbert Akerste** of the parish of Hellinglie – the County of Sussex husbandman being sicke in bodie but of pfecte memorye I prayse god doe appoint and ordeine this my last will and testament in manner and fourme following First I bequeathe my soule into the handes of allmighty god my creator & most mercifull redeemer my body to be buryed in the place of sacred buryall And my goodes I dyspose as followeth First I will to the poore of the parish of hellinglie five shillinges Secondlye my will is so farre as in me lyeth and as will stand with the true Intent of the will & last testament of my naturall **mother** deceased that the summe of fower score poundes (by her my sayed mother deceased given & bequeathed in her sayed will to fower of my elder chyldren by equal porcions) shall ~~bee~~ by the advise of my overseers **Thomas Lancaster** my well beloved brother **John Akerst** of Hasting & **Richard Jefferey** of Hellingly together with my Executor **Susanna** my wyfe be dysposed and put out for the same purpose ~~to~~ And the use of the sayed summes I will to my sayed wyfe toward the bringing up of my sayed Childre[n] And if yt happen that anie of my sayed fower first borne Children to die before he or she shall Accomplish the age of two and twenty yeres then my will is that ten poundes of the porcyon of him or hir so Dyeng under the age of two and twenty yeres shall ~~bee~~ remaine & be to **Alice** my youngest daughter to be payed unto hir when she shall accomplish the age of one and twenty yeres and the other ten poundes of the porcyon of him or hir so dyeng as abovesaid shall remaine to be equally Devided the other {~~three~~} of my sayed Childre[n] then lyving Itm I will and bequeath unto my fower Children **harbert John Elizabeth** and **Thomas** to each of them one silver spoone Itm I will unto ~~my y~~ **Alice** my younger Daughter ten poundes to be payed unto hir when she shall accomplish the age of one and twenty yeres or at hir daye of marryage whether shall first happen All the Residue of my goodes and Chattells not before willed my Debts & Legacies performed & payed I Doe whollie gyve to **Susanna** my wyfe whome I make & appoint sole executor of this my last will and testament Provided alwayes that if it shall happen that **Susanna** my sayed wyfe shall hereafter marrye that then shee and the party with whome she shall marrye shall wt two other sufficient suertyes enter into one [two words scored through] sufficient obligation of six score poundes unto **John Akerst** of hasting my welbeloved brother **John Rea{de}** of Ringmer **Edward Chattfield** of Lyttle horsted & **Richard Jeffereye** of hellinglye for the payment of the porcyons to my sayed Children {in} this my will bequeathed and gyven or else shall Delyver upp the sayed porcyons into the handes of the sayed **John Akerst John Reade Edward Chattfyeld** and **Richard Jefferey** to be by them employed for the most & best advantage & profit of my sayed Childre[n] according to the tenour of this my last will Lastly I appoint & ordeinie overseers of this my last will & testament **Thomas Lancaster** mynister of godes word my dere brother **John Akerst** of hasting & **Richard Jefferey** of hellingly & my will is that without their consent together with my wyfe the sayed summe of fower score poundes gyve[n] unto my sayed fower first borne childre[n] **harbert John Elizabeth** & **Thomas** shall not be lent out to anie or any way dysposed In witnes whereof I have set to my hand the daie and yere above written

Wittnesses to this psent will **John Howard** & **Thomas Pepper**

Probate (on the reverse): 15th March 1613 [1614] to **Susanna Akerst**, relict and executrix
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 26 August 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People
Harbert [Herbert] Akerste, husbandman, testator
Mother (unnamed – see will below)
Thomas Lancaster, overseer
John Akerst of Hastings, brother, overseer
Richard Jeffery of Hellingly, overseer
Susanna Akerst, wife, executrix
Alice Akerst, youngest daughter
Harbert Akerst, son
John Akherst, son
Elizabeth Akherst, daughter
Thomas Akherst, son
John Reade of Ringmer
Edward Chattfield of Little Horsted
John Howard, witness
Thomas Pepper, witness

Places
Hellingly
Hastings
Ringmer
Little Horsted

Relevant Events
Herbert Akherst buried 18 Jan 1614 at Hellingly, "householder". (date needs to be checked in original register)
Elizabeth Akherst buried 22 Mar 1614 at Hellingly, "daughter of Herbert".
(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" in Chapter 2.

## 18. Will of Jonas Akeherst of Hellingly, 1613/14

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/14/181B)
Made: 17 Feb 1613/14
Proved: 25 Feb 1613/14
www.familysearch.org (film: 1885786; image: 329)

In the name of god amen I **Jonas Akeherst** of the parish of Helingly husbandman being weacke in body but thankes be to god in pfect memory first this being the 17th day of february in the yeare of our lord god Ano Dom 1613 I doe bequaith my sowle to Christ my saviour & then after my Death I will my body to be buried in the Churchyard of Helingely aforesayd Itm I will & give to my **mother** forty shilinges Itm I give to my **Brother** all my apparill that is Dublet & hose jerkin shirtes stockinges shoose hat & band Itm I give to **Gooman Stand{?}nought** twenty shilinges Itm I give to **John Shadwell** tenn shilinges & to ewes & lambes Itm I give to **widow Godfry** tenn shilinges Itm I give **Rachell Grinte** one bereed Chest Itm I give to my sister **Margret Alin** tenn shilinges Itm I give to **{w}istris Warrin** twenty shilinges Itm I give to **Richard Brooke** twenty shilinges Itm I give to **Willam Akeherst** sonne of **John Akeherst** of Wadherst one ewe & one lambe Itm I give to **Nickholas Shadwell** & **Richard Shadwell** sonnes of **Jerimy Shadwell** five shilinges a peece Itm I will & apoynt **John Shadwell** to be my whole & sowle executor of this my Last will & to pay all my legases within three monethes after my Desease Itm I doe apoynte **Jerymy** & **Antony Keene** to be my overseres to see this my will fulfiled in witnes whereof I have set to my hand & seale

**Richard Brooke**
the marke of **Thomas Keene**
the marke of **Susan Shadwell**

Probate (on reverse): 25th February 1613 [1614] to John Shadwell, executor.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 25 August 2018 for Geoffrey Barber)*

### NOTES:

People
Jonas Akehurst, husbandman, testator
Mother (not named)
Brother (not named)
Goodman Standnought
John Shadwell, executor
Widow Godfry
Rachell Grinte
Margaret Alin, sister
Mistress Warrin [Warren?]
Richard Brooke
John Akehurst of Wadhurst
William Akehurst, son of John Akehurst of Wadhurst
Jeremy Shadwell
Nicholas Shadwell, son of Jeremy Shadwell
Richard Shadwell, son of Jeremy Shadwell
Jeremy Keene, overseer
Antony Keene, overseer
Thomas Keene, witness
Susan Shadwell, witness

Places
Hellingly
Wadhurst

Relevant Events
Jonas Akherst buried 22 Feb 1613/14 at Hellingly, servant.
Rachel Grinte of Hurstmonceux and John Glyd, yeoman of Hellingly, were granted a marriage licence on 12 Feb 1615/16 (Archdeaconry of Lewes). Sponsors: John Glyd and John Sharpe, Chiddingly, yeoman.
(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**William Akehurst,** b. c1500, d. 1554 at Hellingly
+ **Joan (--?--),** m. c1525
- **Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1526 at Hellingly?
- **Joan Akehurst,** b. c1528 at Hellingly?
  - + **(--?--) Tomkyn,** b. c1530, m. c1552
- **Katherine Akehurst,** b. c1532 at Hellingly?
  - + **(--?--) Page,** b. c1530, m. c1554
- **Henry Akehurst,** b. c1535 at Hellingly?
- **daughter Akehurst,** b. c1540 at Hellingly?
  - + **Giles Grint,** b. c1540, m. c1560
    - **Daniel Grint,** bap. 1564 at Herstmonceux
- **Thomsyn Akehurst,** b. c1540 at Hellingly?
- **Agnes Akehurst,** b. c1542 at Hellingly?
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. c1544 at Hellingly?
- **William Akehurst,** b. c1545 at Hellingly?, d. 1592 at Wartling
  - + **Constance (--?--),** b. c1550, m. c1575, d. after 1613
    - **William Akehurst,** bap. 1577 at Wartling, d. before 1592
    - **Jonas Akehurst,** b. c1580, d. 1613/14 at Hellingly

Note:
1. The "daughter Akehurst" in the above tree is either Thomsyn, Agnes or Elizabeth.
2. William Akehurst is shown here as the father of William Akehurst of Hellingly who left a will made in 1592. The brother's named in William's 1592 will (Thomas and Henry) match and the surname Grynt/Grint appears in the earlier will as a witness and in this later will as a brother-in-law.

## 19. Admon of John Akeherst of Folkington, 1613

(ESRO: PBT 1/3/4/5F)
Date: 20 May 1613

vicesimo die Mai{i} pred
Quo die mr **Willmus Imaus** Presbr_ Arti{u}_ magr_
Surrogatus &c Comisit Admistracoem bonor[um] &c
**Johis Akehurst** nup[er] de Fokington ab intestato defunct_
**Jane Akehurst** eius Reli[ic]te de bene et fidel[ite]r admi-
nistrando &c ad sancta &c inrate obligantur ead[e]m
rel[i]c[t]a et **Willmus Wade** de Fokington pred yeoman in __ CCCC$^{li}$
In {curiam} exhibitu_ extendit ad sumam ___ CC{x}ij$^{li}$ viii$^{s}$ iiij$^{d}$

*The twentieth day of May as above*
*Which day **Mr William Imaus** priest Master of Arts Surrogate etc committed administration of the goods etc of **John Akehurst** late of Folkington deceased intestate to **Jane Akeherst** his relict well and faithfully to administer etc sworn etc*
*the said relict and **William Wade** of Folkington aforesaid yeoman duly bound in [the sum of] ___ £400*
*Exhibited {in court} to the value of ___ £212 8s 4d*

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 20 September 2018)*

### NOTES:

People
John Akehurst, deceased, died intestate
Jane Akehurst, wife, administrator, surety
William Wade of Folkington, surety

Places
Folkington

Family Tree
See Tree 8. "Folkington & Jevington" in Chapter 2.

## 20. Will of Jane Akeherst of Folkington, 1615

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/15/42B)
Made: 19 April 1615
Proved: 2 September 1615
www.familysearch.org (film: 1885787; image: 485)

In the name of god Amen I **Jane Akeherst** of Fokington in the county of Sussex widdowe being sick of body but of good and pfect remembrances thankes be unto god do make and ordeyne this my last will and testament in writing First I give and bequeath my soule unto Almighty god and my body to be buried in the Church of Ste Michaell in Lewes in Sussex Itm I give and bequeath unto **Raffe Akeherst** my sonne the some of three score poundes of lawfull money of England wch **Willm Potnell** of Chiddingligh in the said County of Sussex yoman deceased in his life tyme did owe me Itm I give & bequeath unto my daughter **Joane** one gowne and unto my daughter **Ann** halfe my wearing linnen And I do make the said **Raffe** my sole executor of this my last will In witnes whereof I have hereunto set my hand the Nineteenth day of April 1615

The mke of **Jane Akeherst**

In the psence of

**Henry {C}ob{ir}**
**Stephen Marge{m}**
**Nicholas Shelley**

Probate: 2nd September 1615 to Ralph Akeherst, son and executor.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 29 August 2018)*

### NOTES:

People
Jane Akehurst, widow, testator
Raffe Akehurst, son and executor
Joane, daughter
Ann, daughter
William Potnell of Chiddlingly, debtor
Henry {C}ob{ir}, witness
Stephen Marge{m}, witness
Nicholas Shelley, witness

Places
Folkington
Lewes
Chiddingly

Relevant Events
Joan Akehurst baptised 1 Mar 1578/79 at Folkington, no parents named.
(This is the only Akehurst baptism before 1600).
SFHG Burial Index checked but nothing.
SFHG Marriage Index checked but nothing.
Note that a Ralph Akehurst is recorded in South Malling, Lewes in 1631:[48]

[48] Parish Archive for St Thomas at Cliffe, Lewes. (ESRO: PAR 415/24/1/1/1)

One garden in occupation of John Winbury; two parcels of land called Churchwish adjoining the above in occupation of Ralph Akehurst both in South Malling.

Family Tree

See Tree 8. "Folkington & Jevington" in Chapter 2.

## 21. Admon of John Akehurst of Jevington, 1616

(ESRO: PBT 1/3/4/99C)
Date: 1616

**Johannis Akehurst** nup[er] dum vixit de Jevington
ab intestati defuncti **Elizabethe Akehurst** eius
Relicte de bene et fidel_ administrando &c ad sancta &c
vigor Commissionis als in {h}ac parte emanate iurate
Obligantur **Thomas Betsworth** de Milland
infra paroch de Trotton {et} gen[er]os[u]s et **Richus**
**Parsons** de Hambleden in Com_ South_
husbandman in _____ CC[li]
Inv_ citra festu_ Sanct[orum] Philippi et Jacobi prox exhiben_
[Note in left margin]
Ado hmoi_ est e Curia Progat_ Cant &c racoe_ Bonor_ motabilium &c

***John Akehurst*** *formerly of Jevington deceased intestate [admon granted to]* ***Elizabeth*** *his relict well and faithfully to administer etc sworn etc [...]*
***Thomas Betsworth*** *of Milland in the parish of Trotton gentleman and* ***Richard Parsons*** *of Hambledon in the County of Southampton husbandman [bound in the sum of] ___ £200*
*Inventory to be exhibited before the feast of Saints Philip and James[49] next to come*
*[Note in margin]*
*This admon is [ratified?] by the Prerogative Court of Canterbury etc of the goods moveables etc*
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 20 September 2018)*

### NOTES:

People
John Akehurst, deceased, died intestate
Elizabeth Akehurst, wife, administrator
Thomas Betsworth, gentleman, surety
Richard Parsons, husbandman, surety

Places
Jevington
Hambledon [Hampshire]
Southampton [Hampshire]
Milland in the parish of Trotton
Trotton [West Sussex]

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**John Akehurst,** b. c1550, d. 1616 at Jevington
+ **Elizabeth (--?--),** m. c1570, d. after 1616 at Jevington?

[49] 3rd May

## 22. Will of John Akehurst of Catsfield, 1617

(TNA: PROB 11/130/463)
Made: 12 Aug 1617
Proved: 3 Nov 1617

In the name of God Amen The twelveth daye of August in the yeare of our Lorde god one thousand sixe hundred and seaventeene I **John Akehurst** of Cattesfeild in the Countie of Sussex yeoman being sicke in bodie but whole in minde and in full and perfect remembrance (thankes be to god for the same) doe make and ordayne this my laste will and testament in manner and forme following First I Bequeathe my Soule unto Jesus Christ my alone Saviour by whose merritts death and passion I trust onlie to be saved and my Body to be buried in the Churchyarde of Cattesfeild And as concerning my worldlye goodes First I give to the poore of the Parishe of Cattesfeild Tenne shillings of lawfull money of England to be distributed at the discretion of myne Executor Item I give and bequeath unto **Katherine** my wief One hundred pounds of good and lawfull money of England to be payd unto her within three monethes after my decease Item I give and bequeath unto **Katherin** my wief all such householde stuffe as she broughte unto me at the tyme of her marriage Item I give and bequeath unto **the Childe that she is now greate withall** Twentye pounds of good and lawfull money of England to be paied unto **Katherin** my wife when the said Childe shall Accomplishe the age of Fower yeares to the use of the said Childe And yf that **Katherin** my wief shall departe this lief before the said Childe shall Accomplishe the age of Fower yeares then my will and mynde is that the said Twentie poundes shall be payd into the hands of the executors of **Katherin** my wief yf the Childe be then living to the use of the said Childe The rest of my goodes and cattells unbequeathed my debtes beinge payd and my legacies performed I give and bequeath unto **John Akehurst** my Sonne whome I make sole Executor of this my last will and testament And I doe desire my Landlorde **Mr Richard Keete** and **Edwarde Wigge** to be my Overseers of this my will and testament and to be payd for their travel yf they shall have occation to travel about this business Further I doe give and my mynde is that **Alice Boyes** shall have a petticote Cloth of the broade white Cloth that is in the howse In Witnesse whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale the daie and yeare first above written **John Akehurst** his marke In the presence of **Thomas Burnham Edward Wigge Richard Vernon** ad **Willm Boyes**
Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram Magistro Hugone Barker legum doctore Surrogato venerabilis viri Domini Johannis Bennet militis legum etiam Doctoris Curie Prerogative Cantuariensis Magistri Custodis sive Commissarii legitime constituti Tertio die mensis Novembris Anno Domini millesimo sexcentesimo decimo septimo Juramento **Johannis Akehurst** filii et Executoris in huiusmodi testamento nominati Cui commissa fuit Administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum iurium et Creditorum dicti defuncti de bene et fideliter administrando eadem Ad Sancta Dei Evangelia ad debita iuris forma Jurat
*(Transcribed by Rosie Ansell July 2016)*

## NOTES:

People
John Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Katherine Akehurst, wife
John Akehurst, son, executor
Unborn child
Richard Keete, landlord (overseer)
Edward Wigge (overseer)
Alice Boyes [Boys]
Thomas Burnham, witness

Edward Wigge, witness
Richard Vernon, witness
William Boyes [Boys], witness

Places
Catsfield
Battle
Hellingly

Relevant Events

John Acres [Akehurst] married Katherine Boyse 24 Apr 1615 at Catsfield.

John Acres [Akehurst] buried at Catsfield St Lawrence 15 Aug 1617.

A candidate for the unborn child is:

A William Akehurst was baptised 18 Jan 1617/18 at Battle St Mary, son of John Akehurst (no mention of him being deceased). Catsfield is very close to Battle.

Margaret Acres [Akehurst] buried 29 Sep 1613 at Catsfield, "daughter of John".

Elizabeth Acres [Akehurst] buried 3 Feb 1614 at Catsfield, "daughter of John".

Mary Acres [Akehurst] buried 13 Dec 1615 at Catsfield, "daughter of John".

(SFHG indexes)

Other

The following ESRO documents provide the lineage for John Akehurst:

**Conveyance for £100.** Date: 20 Mar 1589.[50]

> Robert Sydney, kt, of Penshurst, Kent, to John Akehurst the elder of Hellingly, yeoman, his son and heir Edward Akehurst, and John Akehurst, younger son of Edward Akehurst; lands and tenements called Blackstocke in Hellingly

**Conveyance for £240.** Date: 30 May 1597.[51]

> John Akehurst of Catsfield, yeoman, to Anthony Hotheroppe of Brenchley, Kent, yeoman; lands and tenements called Blackstocke in Hellingly

Note also:

**Quitclaim.** Date: 14 Sep 1632.[52]

> Mary Akehurst of Hellingly, widow of John Akehurst, gent, deceased to Anthony Reeve of Biddenden, Kent, gent; right of dower in lands and tenements called Blackestocke in Hellingly

It would appear that the property came back into Akehurst ownership at some stage.

The following refers to John Akehurst's (the testator's) son, indicating that he was an adult established as a husbandman in 1624.

**Premises in Ninfield.**[53]

> Description: Messuage, barn and lands called Brambleswell (27a.) in Ninfield, abutting W. on the king's highway from Standard Hill to Stephens Crouch, N., E., and S. on lands of Richard Keete].
>
> John Brooke of Hooe, yeoman, sold the premises to John Akehurst of Catsfield, husbandman, in 1624, and both parties conveyed it to Nicholas Gotlye of Whatlington,

[50] *Conveyance for £100*. Date: 20 Mar 1589. (ESRO: SAS/P 15)
[51] *Conveyance for £240*. Date: 30 May 1597. (ESRO: SAS/P 20)
[52] *Quitclaim*. Date: 14 Sep 1632. (ESRO: SAS/P 42)
[53] *Premises in Ninfield*. (ESRO: SAU 727-744)

collier, in 1624. In 1634 Nicholas Gotly and Andrew Edwards of Rodmell, yeoman, sold the premises to John Peckham of Salehurst, yeo. SAU/739, 1658, is a covenant whereby William Peckham of Salehurst, yeoman, was to stand seized to uses of the premises. In 1805 John Fuller of Catsfield House, Catsfield, esq., bought the premises from John Micklethwaite of Iridge Place in Salehurst, esq.

Family Tree

See Tree 1. "Robert Akehurst of Hellingly" in Chapter 2.

## 23. Admon of William Akehurst of Guestling, 1631

(ESRO: PBT 1/3/6/88C)
Date: 28 April 1631

Vicesimo octavo die Aprilis pred [1631 given at top of page]
Quo die Magr **Antonius Hugget** Presbiter
Surrogatus &c Comisit Administracoem
Bonor &c **Willm Akehurst** nup[er] de Gestling
abintestato defuncti **Parnele Akehurst** eius
Rel[i]c[t]e de bene et fideliter administrando &c
ad Scta &c iurate &c Obliganture eadem Relca et
**Nichus Aptot** de Lewes yeoman in ____ $xl^{li}$
Inventariu_ exhibitu_ extendit ad sumam ___ $xxj^{li}$ $xj^{s}$ $viij^{d}$

*The twenty eighth day of April aforesaid [1631]*
*Which day Mr Anthony Huggate Priest Surrogate etc. committed the administration of the goods etc. of William Akehurst formerly of Guestling deceased intestate to Parnell Akehurst his relict well and faithfully to administer etc. on the Holy Gospels etc. sworn the said relict and Nicholas Aptot of Lewes yeoman being bound in [the sum of] ___ £40*
*Inventory exhibited to the sum of ____ £21 11s 8d*

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 6 October 2018)*

## NOTES:

People
William Akehurst
Parnell Akehurst, wife
Nicholas Aptot of Lewes, surety
Anthony Huggate, priest

Places
Guestling
Lewes

Relevant Events
The original Bishop's Transcripts for Guestling have been sighted and the following found:
Wid: Akhurst buryed: 3 March 1630/31 (FamilySearch film: 2186642, image: 764)
This doesn't make sense as it is William that died and his widow was still alive on 28 April 1631 to receive the administration of his estate. One wonders if there has been a mistake and the burial should be for William?
William Akehurst married Parnell Nenfeild [Ninfield] on 19 Oct 1618 at Guestling.
John Akehyrst baptised 26 Jul 1624 at Guestling, son of William.
Mary Akers baptised 11 Nov 1627 at Guesting, daughter of William.
Richard Akers baptised 4 Jul 1630 at Guestling, son of William (buried there 25 Mar 1632).
There is a burial and a baptism at Pett in 1620 and 1621 repectively which looks to be children from this family.

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**William Akehurst,** b. c1590, d. 1631 at Guestling
+ **Parnell Ninfield,** b. c1590, m. 1618 at Guestling
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. c1620, d. 1620 at Pett
- **Joan Akehurst,** bap. 1621 at Pett
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1624 at Guestling
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1627 at Guestling
- **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1630 at Guestling, d. 1632 at Guestling

## 24. Will of John Ayhurst of Brede, 1633

(PCC: PROB 11/164 f. 56)
Made: 22 September 1632
Proved: 4 July 1633

In the name of God Amen, the two and twentieth daie of September in the yeare of our Lord God One thousand sixe hundred thirtie two And in the eighth yeare of the Raigne of our Soveraigne Lord Kinge Charles I **John Ayhurst** of Bread in the Countie of Sussex yeoman being sicke and weake in bodie but of good and perfect remembrance (I praise God for it) doe ordaine and make this my last will and testament in maner and forme following (that is to saie) First and above all thinges I committ and commend my soule into the hands of Allmightie God assuredly trustinge through the merrittes of Jesus Christ that it shalbe eternally saved And my bodie I comitt to the earth to bee christianly buried where it shall please God that I die Item I give unto the poore people of the p[ar]ish of Bread the some of tenne shillings of lawfull money of England to be paid by my Executor hereafter named to the Overseers for the poore there and by them to be distributed It I give and bequeath unto **Elizabeth Ayhurst** my now wife the some of fortie pounds of lawfull money of England to be paid unto them [*sic*] by my Executor hereafter named in le{ui}e and considerac[i]on of all her thirds or right of dowre ~~out~~ of all my lands and tenements in the parish of Catsfeild in the Countie of Sussex // the said money to be paid unto her in maner and forme following (that is to saie) twentie pounds thereof within six moneths of the death and decease of mee the said **John Ayhurst** and the other twentie pounds thereof within twelve moneth after the death and decease of mee the said **John Ayhurst** Alsoe I give and bequeath unto the said **Elizabeth** my now wife All my housholdstuffe whatsoever which I now have or am owner of (exceptinge one bedd and boulster that is in the house where I now dwell and one chest of lynnen which is in the house of one **Richard Fuller** my brother in lawe All which I give unto **Susan** my daughter and if she die before she come of full age then I give it to my wife and to be kept in the meane tyme the bedd and the boulster with my wife Item I give and bequeathe unto **Thomas Chase** my brother in lawe five pounds of lawfull money of England to be paid unto him by my Executor hereafter named within* [inserted in the margin] ^ * three monethes next after my decease Item I give & bequeath unto **Susan Ayhurst** my daughter xl$^{s}$ yearly & everie yeare for ^ the tearme of eight yeares next after my decease if my mother **Susan Ayhurst** soe longe doe live and duringe the tyme of her life for and towards her educac[i]on and maintena[n]ce the said money to be paid quarterly at the fower most usuall feasts or termes in the yeare by mine Executor hereafter named unto **Thomas Chase** my brother in lawe or to any other with whome **Susan Ayhurst** of Bread in the Countie of Sussex widow shall thinke fitt dureinge her life to place the said **Susan** my daughter And if it shall happen the said **Susan Ayhurst** to die and depart this life before the end and expirac[i]on of eight yeares as is aforesaid after my decease And yf it happen ^ I ^ the said **John Ayhurst** have a child borne by **Elizabeth** my now wife then **Richard Fuller** my Executor hereafter named to make an accompt unto my said Childs benefitt of the said fortie shillinges a yeare for soe long tyme as it shalbe unpaid by the death of **Susan** as aforesaid and also of the remainder of my personall estate he being allowed fower pounds and fowerteene shillinges which I stand bound to paie [word deleted] my mother **Susan Ayhurst** by my bond and beinge allowed my funerall expences my debts if I shall owe any and my legacies and such necessarie charges as he shall lay out or expend about my busines concerninge this my will first deducted And I doe ordaine the said **Richard Fuller** of Bread in the Countie of Sussex my brother in lawe sole Executor of this my last will and testament givinge unto him all the residue of my goods Cattell and Chattells whatsoever not before bequeathed or given he dischargeinge my funerall expences and payinge my debts and legacies and givinge an account of the remainder thereof after the death of **Susan** my mother And I doe renounce revoke disanull and make voide hereby any former wills by mee made and declare this to be my last will and Testament In witnes whereof I have hereto

sett my hand and seale dated the daie and yeare first above written **John Ayhurst** his marke Sealed and delivered in the presence of **Ed. Polhill Thomas Sarr Thomas Glid**
This is also the last will and Testament of mee the abovesaid John Ayhurst concerning all my messuages lands and tenements whatsoever First for my messuage lands and tenementes lyinge in Bourne in the Countie of Sussex now in the tenure or occupac[i]on of one **Thomas Mo{n}ser** or his assignes my will and minde is that **Susan** my daughter and her heires shall have hold and enioy all those w[hi]ch were her mothers by the gift of **George Foord** Grandfather of the said **Susan** accordinge to his gift And as touchinge all my messuage lands and tenementes in the parish of Catsfeild in the Countie of Sussex now in the tenure or occupac[i]on of [blank] **Dulvie** or of his assignes I give and bequeath them unto **Richard Fuller** my Executor and his heires for and duringe the naturall life of **Susan Ayhurst** of Bread in the Countie of Sussex wid[ow] my mother upon speciall trust and confidence that he the said **Richard Fuller** out of the rentes & profittes thereof shall paie unto the said **Susan** my mother the some of fower pounds and fourteene shillinges due unto her by my bond And from and after the death and decease of the said **Susan Ayhurst** my mother all and every the said messuage lands and tenementes to any such child as shalbe borne of the bodie of **Elizabeth Ayhurst** my now wife of my bodie begotten and to the said Child his or her heires forever lawfullie to be begotten And for want of such issue if the said **Elizabeth** my ^ nowe ^ wife be not with Child by mee at my death then I give and bequeath the said messuage lands and tenem[en]t[s] unto **Susan Ayhurst** my daughter and the heires of her bodie lawfullie to be begotten for ever And for want of such issue then I give and bequeath the said messuage lands and Ten[emen]t[s] unto my friends **John Tihurst** of Heathfeild in the Countie of Sussex yeoman and **John Chilley** of Heathfeild aforesaid yeoman their heires and assignes forever upon speciall trust and confidence and upon condic[i]on that they the said **John Tihurst** and **John Chilley** or the survivor or survivors of them the heires or // assignes of them or either of them shall within six moneths next after that the land shall come unto them for want of issue as abovesaid make sale of all and every the said messuage lands and ten[emen]t[s] to the most and best value they cane and out of the monie so made or arising shall paie and satisfie or cause to be paid and satisfied unto **William Ayhurst Thomas Ayhurst** and **Richard Ayhurst** brethren of mee the said John Ayhurst the moitie or one halfe of all such monie as thereof shall arise or be made equallie to be devided betweene them out of the moietie or other halfe of the said monie made as aforesaid shall pay and satisfie or cause to be paid and satisfied unto **Anne Byne** the wife of **William Byne** of Burwash & her Children five pounds of lawfull money of England And unto the three daughters of **John {?}orrice** my uncle deceased sixe pounds to be equallie devided betweene them out of the said money and the residue or remainder ~~thereof unto Susan Ayhurst the now wife of mee the aforesaid~~ of the said money the moity or one halfe alsoe with the remainder upon account of the personall estate if the Children and theire issue die as abovesaid to be equallie devided and paid or cause to be paid in maner and forme followinge that is to saie one third part therof unto **Elizabeth Ayhurst** the now wife of mee the aforesaid **John Ayhurst** the testator and one third part to **Anne** the wife of **Thomas Chase** and her Children and th'other third p[ar]te unto **Mary** the wife of **Richard Fuller** and her Children In witnes whereof I hereunto sett my hand and seale and doe publish and declare this to be my last will and testament concerninge my lands and messuage and ten[amen]t[s] dated the daie and yeare first abovewritten **John Ayhurst** his marke Sealed and delivered in the presence of **Ed. Polhill Thomas Sarr Thomas Glyd**

Probate: London, 4th July 1633, to **Richard Fuller** the executor.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 9 July 2019)*

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**NOTES:**

People
John Ayhurst, yeoman, testator
Elizabeth Ayhurst, wife
Richard Fuller, brother-in-law, executor
Mary, wife of Richard Fuller
Susan Ayhurst, daughter
Susan Ayhurst of Brede, widow, mother
Thomas Chase, brother-in-law
Anne Chase, wife of Thomas Chase
Thomas Monser, tenant of Bourne
George Foord, father-in-law
[blank] Dulvie, tenant
John Tihurst [Ticehurst?], yeoman of Heathfield, friend
John Chilley, yeoman of Heathfield, friend
William Ayhurst, brother
Thomas Ayhurst, brother
Richard Ayhurst, brother
Anne Byne, wife of William Byne of Burwash
William Byne of Burwash
John {?}orrice, uncle
Edward Polhill, witness
Thomas Sarr, witness
Thomas Glid, witness

Places
Brede
Catsfield
Bourne [Eastbourne]
Heathfield
Burwash

Relevant Events:
John Ayhurst buried 26 Dec 1632 at Burwash St Bartholomew.
[-----] 1632 John Ayhurst married Elizabeth Bythwood at Burwash.
7 Nov 1622 John Aihurst [sic] married Joan Foorde at Heathfield.
William Byne married Anne Atherst [Akherst] on 20 Jul 1613 at Mayfield.

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Susan (--?--),** b. c1555, d. 1638 at Brede
+**(--?--) Howell,** m. c1575, d. before 1583
└── **Ann Howell,** b. c1580
+ **Thomas Kingwood,** m. 1600 at Heathfield, d. before 1614
+ **Thomas Chase,** b. c1580, m. 1614 at Warbleton
+ **Thomas Ayhurst,** m. 1583 at Heathfield, d. 1631 at Brede

- **Thomas Ayhurst,** b. c1584, d. 1593 at Heathfield
- **William Ayhurst,** b. c1587
- **Mary Ayhurst,** b. c1590
  - + **Richard Fuller,** b. c1580, m. 1609 at Heathfield
    - **Mary Fuller,** b. c1620
      - + **Daniel Welles,** m. 1655 at Crowhurst
        - **Daniel Welles,** bap. 1657 at Bexhill, d. 1657 at Crowhurst
        - **John Welles,** bap. 1659 at Bexhill
- **Susannah Ayhurst,** b. c1593, d. 1593 at Heathfield
- **Thomas Ayhurst,** b. c1595, d. 1637 at Herstmonceux
  - + **Elizabeth Comber,** m. 1633 at Brede
    - **Susannah Ayhurst,** bap. 1635 at Herstmonceux
    - **Elizabeth Ayhurst,** bap. 1637 at Herstmonceux, d. 1638 at Herstmonceux
- **John Ayhurst, b. c1600, d. 1632 at Burwash**
  - + **Joan Foorde,** bap. 1600 at Herstmonceux, m. 1622 at Heathfield, d. 1630 at Heathfield
    - **Susan Ayhurst,** bap. c1625
  - + **Elizabeth Bythwood,** m. 1632 at Burwash
- **Sarah Ayhurst,** b. c1601, d. 1601 at Heathfield
- **Richard Ayhurst,** b. c1605

## 25. Will (Nuncupative) of John Ayhurst of Uckfield, 1635

TNA: PROB 11/168/508
Made: 12 June 1635,
Proved: 10 August 1635

In the name of God Amen: the twelfe daye of June Anno Regni Regis Caroli &c undecimo Annoque domini one thousand six hundred thirtie fyve I John Ayhurst of Uckfeild in the Countie of Sussex Miller being sicke in body but of good and p[er]fect memory (thankes be to God) doe ordayne and make this my last will and Testament in manner and forme following First I give and bequeath my soule into the hands of Almighty God hopeing thorough the merrites of Jesus Christ to have remission of all my sinnes and to be made a partaker of everlasting lyfe, As for my body my desire is that the same maye be buried in Christian buriall according to the discretion of myne executrix hereafter named Item I give unto Thomas Ayhurst John Ayhurst William Ayhurst and Francis Ayhurst my naturall sonnes fyve poundes a peece of lawfull money of England to be payed unto them at their sev[er]all ages of one and twentie yeares Item I give and bequeath unto Jane Ayhurst Anne Ayhurst and Mary Ayhurst my naturall daughters fyve pounds a peece of lawfull money of England to be payed unto them at their severall ages of one and twenty yeares or severall dayes of their marriages wch shall first happen Item I make and ordaine Anne my loveing wife sole executrix of this my last will and Testament To whome I give and bequeath all the rest of my goodes and Cattells whatsoever. This was his sayeing and meaneing, but his memory suddainly fayled him before this could be finished William Hawes Ralfe Chatfeild Francis Hucksteep and Thomas Crispe

Probatum fuit Testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram venerabili viri domino Henrico Marten Milite legum doctore Curie Prerogative Cantuariensis Magistroi Custode sive Comissario legitime constituto decimo die mensis Augusti Anno domini millesimo sexcentesimo tricesimo quinto Juramento Annae Ayhurst relictae dicti defuncti et Executricis in huiusmodi testamento nominat Cui commissa fuit Administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum iurium et Creditorum dicti defuncti de bene et fideliter Administrando eadem Ad sancta dei Evangelia (coram magistro Johanne Peckham Clerico vigore Commissionis in ea parte alia emanat) Jurat

*(Transcribed by Vyvyan Jones, January 2023)*

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**NOTES:**

People
John Ayhurst, yeoman, testator
Anne Ayhurst, wife
Thomas Ayhurst, son
John Ayhurst, son
William Ayhurst, son
Francis Ayhurst, son
Jane Ayhurst, daughter
Anne Ayhurst, daughter

Mary Ayhurst, daughter

Places
Uckfield

Relevant Events:
John Ayhurst buried 14 Jun 1635 at Uckfield Holy Cross.
A marriage licence was issued on 6 May 1612 between John Ayhurst, miller, and Ann Huckstep, spinster of Etchingham. (Archdeaconry of Lewes)
Ann Ayhurst (widow) was buried on 9 Jun 1638 at Uckfield Holy Cross.

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Constance (--?--),** d. 1582 at Whatlington, admon 1582
+**unknown spouse**
└── **John Ayhurst,** b. circa 1550
+**Alice (--?--),** b. circa 1560, m. circa 1580, d. 1627 at Whatlington
├── **John Ayhurst,** b. circa 1585, d. 1635 at Uckfield, pro. 1635
+**Ann Huckstep,** b. circa 1590, mlc. 1612, d. 1638 at Uckfield
├── **Thomas Ayhurst,** bap. 1615 at Whatlington, d. 1638 at Uckfield
├── **John Ayhurst,** bap. 1618 at Uckfield
├── **Joan Ayhurst,** bap. 1618 at Uckfield
├── **William Ayhurst,** bap. 1620 at Uckfield
├── **Ann Ayhurst,** bap. 1622 at Uckfield
├── **Elizabeth Ayhurst,** bap. 1624 at Uckfield, d. 1626 at Uckfield
├── **Susan Ayhurst,** b. circa 1627 at Uckfield, d. 1627 at Uckfield
├── **Mary Ayhurst,** bap. 1629 at Uckfield
+**William Fawkner,** m. 1655 at Hawkhurst
├── **John Fawkner,** b. circa 1656
├── **Samuel Fawkner,** b. circa 1658
├── **Daniel Fawkner,** b. circa 1660
├── **William Fawkner,** b. circa 1662
├── **Mary Fawkner,** b. circa 1664
├── **Sarah Fawkner,** b. circa 1666
└── **Hannah Fawkner,** b. circa 1668
└── **Francis Ayhurst,** bap. 1632 at Uckfield, d. 1688/89 at Ewhurst, pro. 1688/89
+**Ann (--?--),** m. circa 1660
├── **Thomas Ayhurst,** b. circa 1590
+**Mary (--?--),** m. circa 1624
├── **William Ayhurst,** bap. 1624 at Whatlington, d. 1639 at Whatlington
├── **Edward Ayhurst,** bap. 1627 at Whatlington, d. 1648 at Whatlington
├── **Ann Ayhurst,** bap. 1630 at Whatlington
├── **Elizabeth Ayhurst,** bap. 1634 at Whatlington
├── **Bridget Ayhurst,** bap. 1635 at Whatlington
└── **Mary Ayhurst,** bap. 1638 at Whatlington
└── **Joan Ayhurst,** b. circa 1595, d. 1637 at Whatlington

## 26. Will of Susan Ayhurst of Brede, 1638

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/25/157B)
Made: 2 September 1638 (died same day)
Proved: 13 September 1638
www.familysearch.org (film: 1885823; image: 238)

(registered nuncupative will)
Memorand That **Susan Ayhurst** late of Breade in the County of Sussex widdow who departed this life upon Sunday the second day of September in the yeare of our lord god one thousand six hundred and Thirty eight [several words scored through] being of pfect mynde & memory about three dayes before her death did make & declare her last Will & Testament nuncupative in effect as followeth That is to say First she did will & give her daughter **Anne Chase** one featherbed one featherbolster one pillow two blanketts one Coverlett & the Curtaines & Curtaine rodes thereunto & a {be}desteddle Item she did will & give to her sonne **Richard Fuller** one Bedsteddle and a Table Item to her sonne **William Ayherst** her best gowne yf he come againe Item to **M^ris^ Bexhill** of Waldron her best silke girdle Item to **Mary Fuller** her grandchilde one handkercher & her best white apron Item to her daughter **Elizabeth Colebrooke** two smockes & a white apron & a petticoate Item to her daughter **Mary Fuller** one box & a silke girdle The rest of her wearing apparrell she willed to her said daughter **Anne Chase** Item she did will to nyne of her grandchildren who shall have most need & whome her executor shall think fitt nyne paire of sheetes Viz^t^ to each of them one paire Item to her grandchilde **Susan Ayherst** halfe a dozen of napkins a towell a cupbord cloth & a box To her sonne **Richard Fuller** all the money due to her upon bondes to pay & discharge her funeralls & other Charges & payments And she did nominate the sayd **Richard Fuller** to be sole executor of this her last will & Testament There being present at the declaring hereof **John Dorman** & **Jane Hoade** wife of **Thomas Hoad**

Probate: 13th September 1638 to **Richard Fuller**, son and executor.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 29 August 2018)*

### NOTES:

People
Susan Ayhurst, widow, testator, died 2 Sep 1638.
Anne Chase, daughter
Elizabeth Colebrooke, daughter
Mary Fuller, daughter
Richard Fuller, son and executor
William Ayherst, son
Mistress Bexhill of Waldron
Mary Fuller, grandchild
Susan Ayhurst, grandchild
Mentions "nine of her grandchildren who shall have most need"
John Dorman, witness
Jane Hoade, wife of Thomas Hoade, witness

Places
Brede
Waldron
Heathfield
Warbleton
Herstmonceux
Hellingly
Falmer
Stanmer

Relevant Events:

Susan Ayherst buried 5 Sep 1638 at Brede, "widow".

Susan Ayherst is possibly Susanna Howell, widow, who married Thomas Ayerst on 25 Nov 1583 at Heathfield.

Her daughter Anne Chase could then be Ann Howell who married Thomas Kengewood on 10 Nov 1600 at Heathfield and then as Anne Kindgwood, widow, married Thomas Chase on 30 May 1614 at Warbleton, Sussex.

Elizabeth Ayherst, widow of Herstmonceux and Simon Colebrooke, of Hellingly obtained a marriage licence on 25 Jan 1637/38 (Archdeaconry of Lewes). Sponsors: Simon Colebrooke; Richard Savage of Lewes, sadler.

Mary Ayerst married Richard Fuller on 18 Jan 1608/09 at Heathfield, Sussex.

The following may be the William Ayhurst mentioned in the above will:

*William Ayhurst of Falmer and Elizabeth Holmewood of Stanmer obtained a marriage licence on 18 Dec 1640 (South Malling Peculiar). Sponsors: Ed. Holmewood woolendraper Lewes; Ed. Brinckhurst cutler otsp.*

Family Tree

(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Susan (--?--),** b. c1555, d. 1638 at Brede
+**(--?--) Howell,** m. c1575, d. before 1583
└── **Ann Howell,** b. c1580
+ **Thomas Kingwood,** m. 1600 at Heathfield, d. before 1614
+ **Thomas Chase,** b. c1580, m. 1614 at Warbleton
+ **Thomas Ayhurst,** m. 1583 at Heathfield, d. 1631 at Brede
├── **Thomas Ayhurst,** b. c1584, d. 1593 at Heathfield
├── **William Ayhurst,** b. c1587
├── **Mary Ayhurst,** b. c1590
+ **Richard Fuller,** b. c1580, m. 1609 at Heathfield
└── **Mary Fuller,** b. c1620
+ **Daniel Welles,** m. 1655 at Crowhurst
├── **Daniel Welles,** bap. 1657 at Bexhill, d. 1657 at Crowhurst
└── **John Welles,** bap. 1659 at Bexhill
├── **Susannah Ayhurst,** b. c1593, d. 1593 at Heathfield
├── **Thomas Ayhurst,** b. c1595, d. 1637 at Herstmonceux
+ **Elizabeth Comber,** m. 1633 at Brede
├── **Susannah Ayhurst,** bap. 1635 at Herstmonceux
└── **Elizabeth Ayhurst,** bap. 1637 at Herstmonceux, d. 1638 at Herstmonceux
├── **John Ayhurst, b. c1600, d. 1632 at Burwash**
+ **Joan Foorde,** bap. 1600 at Herstmonceux, m. 1622 at Heathfield, d. 1630 at Heathfield
└── **Susan Ayhurst,** bap. c1625
+ **Elizabeth Bythwood,** m. 1632 at Burwash

├── **Sarah Ayhurst,** b. c1601, d. 1601 at Heathfield
└── **Richard Ayhurst,** b. c1605

Note: There is another will connected to this family (Mary Akehurst, spinster of Brede, 1661) but she is not shown in the above tree as there is not enough information to place her. She could be a daughter of William Ayhurst or maybe a cousin descended from a brother or sister of Thomas Ayhurst.

## 27. Admon of Edward Akehurst of Jevington, 1638

(ESRO: PBT 1/3/7/124A)
Date: 20 Nov 1638

vicesimo die Novembris Anno Dni 1638
Quo die [rest of line illegible due to a flaw in the image]
[word deleted] Surrogatus &c Comisit Administracoe_
Bonor &c **Edri Akehurst** nup[er] de Jevinton
abintestato defuncti **Thome Akehurst**
fratri n[atur]ali et l[egi]t[i]mo eiusdem defuncti
de bene et fidelitr_ administrando &c ad
Sancta &c iurato Obligantur idm_ **Thomas**
de Jevington pred husbandman et {**Radus**}
**Edwardes** de eadm_ yeoman in ___ xli
Inriu_ extn_ extendit ad sumam ___ iijli viijs iiijd

*twentieth day of November 1638*
*Which day [details of person making judgement] Surrogate etc. committed the administration of the goods etc. of Edward Akehurst formerly of Jevington deceased intestate to Thomas Akehurst natural and lawful brother of the said deceased well and faithfully to administer etc. on the Holy Gospels etc. sworn the said Thomas of Jevington aforesaid husbandman and {Ralph} Edwardes of the same place yeoman being bound in [the sum of] ___ £10*
*Inventory exhibited to the total sum of ____ £3 8s 4d*

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 5 October 2018)*

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**NOTES:**

People
Edward Akehurst, yeoman of Jevington
Thomas Akehurst, husbandman of Jevington, brother
Ralph Edwards, yeoman, surety

Places
Jevington

Relevant Events
Edward Akehurst was buried 15 Nov 1638 at Jevington St Andrew.
Thomas Akehurst of Jevington and Mary Page of Blatchington obtained a marriage licence on 21 Feb 1638/39 (Archdeaconry of Lewes). Sponsors: Thomas Akehurst and William Page, yeoman of Iford.
Thomas Akehurst married Mary Page on 19 Mar 1638/39 at East Blatchington. Their first two children were baptised at Jevington 1640 and 1641/42.
Thomas Akehurst "of Wancke" [Wannock?] was buried 15 Jul 1662 at Jevington.

Other

The following documents refer to Edward's brother Thomas Akehurst of Jevington. They suggest a link between the Akehursts of Jevington and Raphe Akehurst at Lewes whose line goes back to Folkington, next to Jevington:

**Mortgage by Lease for £120.** Date: 3 June 1656. [54]

Description: Thomas Akehurst of Jevington, yeoman, and his wife Susanna Akehurst to Ralph Akehurst of the Cliffe near Lewes, haberdasher

1. 3 pieces of land called Fritters Water, Cuthale and the Knowle (9 acres) in Jevington and Willingdon.
2. a close called the Two acre piece (2 acres) in Jevington, one other piece in Eastwish in Willingdon (1 rood), another piece (3 roods) in a field called Stonefield in Willingdon, several pieces in Jevington (4 acres).

Witnesses: Richard Lewis, Jane Lewis, John Store, Thomas Snatt etc

**Grant in fee for £50.** Date: 10 Jun 1659.[55]

Thomas Akehurst of Jevington, yeoman, to Elizabeth Daniell of Jevington, spinster, daughter of [blank] Daniell of Arlington deceased

1. a piece of land called the Knowle (3 acres) in Willingdon in the tenure of Thomas Akehurst.
2. 3 roods in a field called Stoneford in Willingdon in the tenure of Edward Martyn.
3. a piece in Eastwish in Willingdon (1 rood) in the tenure of Edward Martyn.

Witnesses: Ralph Edwards, Edward Marten, Thomas Akehurst the younger, Richard Lewis

Family Tree

See Tree 8. "Folkington & Jevington" in Chapter 2.

[54] *Mortgage by Lease for £120*. Date: 3 June 1656. (ESRO: SAS/C 456)

[55] *Grant in fee for £50*. Date: 10 Jun 1659. (ESRO: SAS/C 458)

## 28. Admon of Mary Akehurst of Hastings, 1639

(ESRO: PBT 1/3/7/181A)
Date: 1639

Quo die Magr Thomas Russell Clerus Art?? Magr
Surrogatus &c Commisit Admininistracoem Bonor_
&c Marie Akehurst nup[er] de Hasting vid ab intestat{i}
defuncte Richardo Franke Clero marito Anne
Franke als Akehurst filie na[tur]alis et ltime e{iusd?}
defuncte de bene et fidelit[e]r administrando &c ad
Sancte &c iurato Obligantur idm_ Richus Franke
{de Hasting} p{??}d Cl{erk} et Thomas Bark{er} de
Lewes blacksmith {???} _____ CCli
Et {???} Inv[ventorium] {???} Citra Festu_ Scte Thomae
Ap[ostoli] prox futur_

*The same day* Mr Thomas Russell Clerk Master of Arts Surrogate etc. Comitted the administration of the goods etc. of Mary Akehurst formerly of Hastings widow deceased intestate to Richard Frank, clerk, the husband of Anne Franke otherwise Akehurst the natural and legitimate daughter of the said deceased well and faithfully to administer etc. on the Holy Gospels etc. Richard Franke of Hastings aforesaid, {clerk}, and Thomas Bark{er} of Lewes, blacksmith, being bound {in the sum of} ___ £200*
*And an inventory {to be submitted} before the Feast of St Thomas the Apostle next to come*

* Date given earlier in the document but not shown in this image.
A note in the margin says the Admon was {granted} by the PCC.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 5 October 2018)*

## NOTES:

People
Mary Akehurst, widow
Richard Frank of Hastings, son-in-law, clerk, administrator
Anne Frank otherwise Akehurst, daughter, wife of Richard Frank
Thomas Barker of Lewes, surety

Places
Hastings
Lewes

Relevant Events
Mary Akehurst was buried 5 Nov 1639 at Hellingly St Peter & St Paul, "Mrs., widow". Her husband John had been buried there in 1630.

Other

Mary's husband John Akehurst was Mayor of Hastings in 1614. The position was generally only held for one year. [56]

Mary Akehurst's death is mentioned in an "Assignment of Mortgage" document dated 17 Aug 1691. The summary from the ESRO catalogue is quoted below:

**Assignment of mortgage for £138 13s 4d.** Date: 17 Aug 1691. (ESRO: MIL 1/15/2)

Description: Ann Wenham of Laughton, widow, to William Benbrigg of Boreham Street in Wartling, gent

1. The Gulphes and The Halton (18 acres) with a barn, occupied by Richard Atherall in 1639.
2. The Halton otherwise The Gallowes Field (10 acres), occupied by Henry Dowle in 1639.

recites: resulting from the negotiation for the marriage between Richard Franck and Ann Franck for securing their payment of £200 which he had received from her, and which by agreement between them should be repaid to the four children of Richard Baker which he had by Ann (Richard Baker, Mary Baker, John Baker and Abraham Baker) as part of the legacies given them by their father's will, he granted a 99-year lease to Ann's mother **Mary Akehurst of Hastings, widow**, and to Richard Baker's brother John Baker of Tunbridge, gent, to be void if the payments were made, 6 Sep 1639; death of John Baker under 21 several years ago; Richard Baker, Mary wife of Ralph Akehurst of The Cliffe and Abraham Baker have long since achieved the age of 21 but neither Richard Franck in his lifetime nor his executors have made the payments; liability of Ann Franck, as executrix of Richard Baker, for the legacies to her children; **death of Mary Akehurst shortly after the indenture of 1639**, whereby her interest passed to John Baker late of Tunbridge by survivorship in trust for Ann Franck; Ann Franck has paid the legacies and is entitled to be repaid; assignment of the property by John Baker to John James of Dallington, yeoman, and Henry Cruttenden of Burwash, yeoman (since deceased) in trust for Ann Franck, 25 Oct 1655; assignment by Francis Franck of Hastings, gent (now deceased), son and heir of Richard Franck of Hastings, clerk, with his mother Ann Franck of Cliffe near Lewes, widow, late wife of Richard Franck and previously wife of Richard Baker of Hastings, to John James of Dallington, yeoman, in trust for Ann Franck, 26 Apr 1666; assignment by John James of Dallington, yeoman, to Thomas Snatt of London, haberdasher and Mary Akehurst of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow, in trust for Ann Franck of Lewes, widow, 16 Jun 1670; mortgage for £130 by Thomas Snatt of Hunton in Kent, gent and Mary Akehurst of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow, with Ann Franck of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow and executrix of Richard Baker of Hastings, to Ann Wenham of Laughton, 15 Mar 1690; £138 13s 4d now owing

Witnesses: Richard Isted, Samuel Isted

Family Tree

See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" in Chapter 2.

[56] H B Guppy, *Homes of Family Names in Britain,* (1890) taken from W. G. Moss, *The History and Antiquities of the Town and Port of Hastings. Illustrated by A Series of Engravings From Original Drawings*, (1824).

## 29. Will of William Akerst of Herstmonceux, 1641

(ESRO: PBT 1/5/336)
Made: 26 Oct 1641
Proved: 8 Nov 1641
www.familysearch.org (film: 1885592; image: 274)

In the name of God Amen the six and twentyth daye of October Ano Dom 1641 I **William Akerst** of Herstmonceux in the countye of Sussex Husbandma[n] being sicke in body but of a pfect memorye doe make & ordayne this my last will & testament in maner & forme following first I Comend my soule into the handes of Almyghty god my Creator & maker Hopeing assueredly through the merritts of Jesus Christ my saviour to be made ptaker of life everlasting And I Comend my body to the earth from whence it came to be buryed in decent place of Christian buryall Itm I give and bequeath unto **Ellinor** my loveing wif all the houshold stuf that shee broth unto me at our marryage Alsoe I give unto my said wife the sume of twenty shillinges to be paid her wtin one month next after my deceasse by my executor Alsoe I give unto my said wif one Barrow hogg nowe sett up to fatting & six bushells of oates to fatt him wt all to be deliv[ere]d her by my execor psently after my deceasse Alsoe I give unto my said wif three hundred of the fagottes nowe standing about the house nowe where I dwell to be deliv[ere]d unto her by my executor psently after my deceasse Alsoe I give unto my sd wif all the butter and ten of the cheesses nowe in the house to be deliv[er]ed her psently by my executor after my deceasse Itm Igive & bequeath unto **Henry Akerst** my sonn All my weareing apparrell one feather bed one feather bolster one feather pillow one payer of the best sheetes one Covering two blanquetts & one boorded bestedle Alsoe I give unto my said sonn **Henry Akerst** one Iron pott the gretest brass ketle one brass posnett all the pewter one Joyned Chest the best boorded Chest two {v}irboords to be deliv[ere]d unto him by my executor psently after my deceasse Also I give & bequeath unto my sd sonn **Henry Akerst** the sume of tenn poundes of lawfull english mony to be payd him by my executor wtin two months Alsoe my will & meaneing is that **Ellinor** my wif & **Henry Akerst** my son shall dwell in the house where I nowe dwell untill our lady day next my executor payeing the Rent for the sd house wch shall grow then due All the Rest of my goodes & Chattells unbequeathed I give unto **Henrye Russell** of Crowherst my sonne in law whome I doe make & ordayne to be the executor of this my last will & testamt he payeing my debts & legaces & dischargeing my funaerall expences In wittness whereof I the sd **Wm Akerst** have hereunto sette my hand the day & yere first above written

**Wm Akerst** his marke

Wittnesse hereunto

**Thos Hamond**

**Henry Akerst** his marke

Probate (on reverse): 8th November 1641 to Henry Russell, executor.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 25 August 2018)*

## NOTES:

People
William Akerst, testator
Ellinor Akerst, his wife
Henry Akherst, his son
Henry Russell of Crowhurst, son-in-law, executor
Thomas Hamond, witness

Henry Akerst, witness

Places
Herstmonceux
Crowhurst

Relevant Events

William Akhurst buried 2 Nov 1641 at Herstmonceux.

Ellen Akhurst buried 13 Nov 1642 at Herstmonceux, "widow of William".

12 Aug 1630 William Akehurst married Helen Lake at Herstmonceux, both of this parish. (Note: transcribed as William Akharst and Ellen Lake in FamilySearch)

22 Oct 1632 Margaret Akehurst married Henry Russell at Herstmonceux, both of this parish.

A Henry Russell was buried at Crowhurst on 26 Jul 1653 and Margaret Russell (widow) was buried at Crowhurst on 6 Jul 1660.

The will mentions Henry Russell of Crowhurst as the son in law so would imply that Margaret Akehurst was a daughter of William, born c1610.

22 Jul 1622 William Akehurst married Margaret Russell at Hellingly. Is this an earlier marriage of William?

7 Sep 1618 William Akehurst married Tamsin Iden at Herstmonceux, both of this parish.

(Note: transcribed as 1 Sep 1618 William Akherst and Thomasin Iden in FamilySearch)

Tomson Akhurst buried 10 Sep 1629 at Herstmonceux "widow William"

The fact that Tomson [Tamsyn] was a widow at her burial would suggest there was a second William and that it was not the William Akhurst of this will that married her.

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Henry Akehurst**, b. c1550, d. 1606 at Herstmonceux
+ **Catherine (--?--)**, b. c1550, m. c1574
- **Judith Akehurst**, bap. 1574 at Herstmonceux
- **Elizabeth Akehurst**, bap. 1577 at Herstmonceux, d. 1578 at Herstmonceux
- **Tamsyn Akehurst**, bap. 1579 at Herstmonceux
- **William Akehurst**, b. c1580, d. 1641 at Herstmonceux
  + **unknown spouse**
    - **Margaret Akehurst**, b. c1610 at Herstmonceux?, d. 1660 at Crowhurst
      + **Henry Russell**, m. 1632 at Herstmonceux, d. 1653 at Crowhurst
    - **Henry Akehurst**, b. c1615
  + **Eleanor Lake**, b. c1580, m. 1630 at Herstmonceux, d. 1642 at Herstmonceux
- **Susan Akehurst**, bap. 1582 at Herstmonceux

## 30. Will of John Acurst of Beckley, 1653

(TNA: PROB 11/230/141)
Made: 21 October 1652
Proved: 20 May 1653

In the name of God Amen the one and twentith day of October in the yeare of our Lord God One Thousand Six Hundred Fiftie and Two I **John Acurst** of Beckly in the Countie of Sussex husbandman beinge weake in Bodie but of good and perfect memorie for the which I give prayer and thanks unto Almightie God doe make and ordaine this my last will and testament in manner and forme followinge That is to say, first and principally I commend my Soule unto the hands of Almightie God my maker and Creator who att the first gave itt to me in full assurance through the death and sufferings of my Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ to be raysed to everlasting life and to have an inheritance with the Saints in glory and my bodie to the earth from whence it came to be interred at the discretion of my Executrix hereafter named after decent manner in Christian burial, /Item/ I give and bequeath unto my Three Brethren **William, Thomas and Richard** to either of them one shilling to be paid unto them by my Executrix within six moneths after my decease /Item/ I give and bequeath unto **Thomas Acust** sonn of my brother **William Acust** aforesaid five pounds to be payd by my Executrix into the hands of **Richard Humphrey** of Beckley aforesaid within six months after my decease and their to remayne untill the said **Thomas Acust** shall attaine unto his respective age of one and twenty years att which time my will is that the said **Richard Humphery** shall pay unto the said **Thomas Acust** the said some of Five pounds and also profit for itt for the time it hath bine in his hands after the rates of Twelve pence in the pound. And yf the said **Thomas Acust** shall happen to dye before hee shall attaine his respective age of one and twentie years as aforesaid Then my will is that the nexte of birth of his fellowes shall have the said legacie of Five pounds with the profit thereof when hee or shee shall attayne unto the age of one and twentie years as aforesaid /Item/ I further give unto the said **Thomas Acust** one little Box with a locke and key and also one Blewe Doublet and Breeches to be delivered unto him by my Executrix within one moneth after my decease /Item/ I give and bequeath unto **William Acust** my deere father Twentie shillings to be paid unto him by my Executrix immediately after my decease. /Item/ my will is that immediately after my decease an Inventory shall be taken of all my money household stuff and goods my debtes legacies funerall expences and charges in the court being first discharged The rest I give and bequeath unto **Bridggett** my beloved wife whome I doe make sole Executrix to this my last will and Testament/ In witness whereof I the said John Acust have hereunto sett my hand and seale the day and year first above written And I doe desire my loveing **Mr Richard Humphery** and **Thomas his sonne** to be my overseers and a guide to my Executrix and I doe give them five shillings apeece for their paynes / **John Acust** his marke / Read published sealed and declared by the abovenamed **John Acust** as his last will and Testament in the prescents of **John Day** by his marke **Edmo. Glover**/

This will was proved at Westminster the Twentieth day of May in the yeare of our Lord God One Thousand Six Hundred Fiftie and Three before the judges for probate of wills and granting Administrations Entituled an Acte for Probate of wills and granting Administrations by the Oath of **Bridgett Accurst** the Relict of the said deceased and sole Executrix named in the said will, To whom was Committed Administration of all and singular the goods chattels and debts of the said deceased shee being first legallie sworn (by Commission well and truly) to administer the same)

*(Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, October 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People
John Akehurst, testator
Bridget Akehurst, wife, executrix
William Akehurst, brother
Thomas Akehurst, brother
Richard Akehurst, brother
Thomas Akehurst, son of William Akehurst
William Akehurst, father
Richard Humphrey
Thomas Humphrey, son of Richard Humphrey
John Day, witness
Edmond Glover, witness

Places
Beckley

Relevant Events
The SFHG burial index has a John Akhurst buried 23 Nov 1650 at Beckley. There are no other Akehursts or variants in the Beckley burial register. It is likely that this is a mistranscription and should be 23 Nov 1652.

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted)

**William Akehurst,** b. c1595
+ **unknown spouse**
- **John Akehurst,** b. c1620, d. 1653 at Beckley, SSX
  - + **Bridget (--?--),** m. c1650
- **William Akehurst,** b. c1620
  - + **unknown spouse**
    - **Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1645
- **Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1620
- **Richard Akehurst,** b. c1620

There is very little sign of this family in Sussex suggesting they may have come from Kent.

## 31. Will of Harbert Akehurst of London, 1653

(TNA: PROB 11/229/532)
Made: 17 Jul 1653
Proved: 15 Aug 1653, Prerogative Court of Canterbury

In the Name of God Amen the seventeenth day July One thousand six hundred fiftye and three I **Harbert Akehurst** Cittizen and Cordwayner of London being sicke in body but of good and perfect memory (thanks be to God) doe make and ordeine this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following First I comitt my Soule unto Almighty God my Creator and Redeemer beleeving and trusting through my Lord and Savio[u]r Jesus Christ to receave the free pardon and forgivenesse of all my Sinns and to enioy eternals peace in the Favo[u]r of Almight God And my Body to be buried in the parish Church of James Garlickhithe in London And as touching my outward and temporall Estate I give and dispose of it in manner following First my Will is that all my iust Debts shall be carefully and truelye payed and out of the residue that shall then remayne I give and bequeath unto **Stephen Emery and Katherine his wife** the sum[m]e of five shillings to buy each of them a payre of Gloves Item I give and bequeath unto **Amey Askett** widdowe the sum[m]e of five shillings Item I give and bequeath unto my loving freind **William Pearce** halfe a crowne to buy him a payre of Gloves Item I give and bequeath unto his wife my little brasse morter Item I give unto **Mary Taylor** eighteene pence to buy her a paire of gloves Item I give and bequeath unto my two Cozens **Thomas and John Rosse** to each of them halfe a Crowne to buy them Gloves Item I give and bequeath unto **John Bodell** halfe a Crowne to buy him a paire of gloves Item I give and bequeath unto my Cozen **Frances Speake** the sum[m]e of five shillings Item I give and bequeath unto my truly loving kinsman **M^r^ John Goodwyn** one Ceadar chest now standing in my Bedchamber one olde Warming Pann (that was his and my Grandmothers) Item I give and bequeath unto my truly loving kinsman **M^r^ John Akehurst** my little drinking Jacke tip't with silver as a token of my love to him and I give unto his good wife the sum[m]e of five shillings to buy her a payre of gloves Item // I give and bequeath unto my loving brother **John Akehurst** the sum[m] of twenty shillings in money and I doe freely and forever forgive unto him all the debts that he oweth unto mee Item I give unto my loving brother **Thomas Akehurst** the sum[m]e of forty shillings to be payed unto him at his Coming into England and I freelye and fully forgive unto him all that he oweth unto mee Item I give and bequeath unto my father in law **William Bonnicke** the sum[m]e of twenty shillings Item I give and bequeath unto my brother in law **Josias Bonnick** the sum[m]e of twenty shillings Item I give and bequeath unto my Sister in Lawe **Liddia Bonnick** the sum[m]e of twenty shillings Item I give and bequeath unto my loving freind **George Bromley** the sum[m]e of ten shillings in money and my best paire of Gloves and to his wife **Katherine Bromley** halfe a crowne to buy her a payre of Gloves Item I give and bequeath unto my loving freind **Anthony Medcalfe** the sum[m]e of ten shillings in money and my best playne Gloves And all the Rest of my Estate Goods and Chattles unbequeathed after my said Debts truly payed my Funerall Costs (in a decent manner performed) discharged and the severall Legacies performed I give and bequeath unto my loving freind and Cozen **Mary Speake** whome I make and ordeine the sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament And I constitute and appoint my loving freinds **George Bromley** and **Anthony Medcalfe** to be Overseers of this my Will and doe further entrust them the said Overseers with ordering disposing and managing the same And my Will and expresse charge is that my said Executrix doe nothing herein but by the direction Advice Oversight and approbation of the said Overseers or at least one of them In witnesse where of I have hereunto sett my hand and seale the sayd 17th day of July 1653; **Harbt Akehurst**./ Declared Read Signed and sealed and published as the last Will and Testament of the sayd **Harbert Akehurst** in the presence of **John Goodwin Tho. Watkinsonn** the marke of **Giles Rayment**

This will was proved at Westminster the fifteenth day of August 1653 before the Judges for probate of Wills and granting Adminstrac[i]ons [...] by the Oathe of **Mary Speake** the sole and only Executrix to whome was granted Administration & shee being first sworne truly to administer &c.

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 3rd September 2020)*

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[ ] Transcriber's note or addition
{ } Unclear or illegible text
^...^ Interlined text

**Notes:**

People
Harbert Akehurst, testator, cordwainer
Stephen Emery
Katherine Emery, wife of Stephen Emery
Amey Askett, widow
William Pearce, friend
Mary Taylor
Thomas Rosse, cousin
John Rosse, cousin
John Bodell
Mary Speake, cousin, executor
John Goodwyn, kinsman, witness
John Akehurst, kinsman
John Akehurst, brother
Thomas Akehurst, brother [overseas]
William Bonnicke, father in law
Josias Bonnicke, brother in law
Liddia Bonnick, sister in law
George Bromley, friend
Katherine Bromley, wife of George Bromley
Anthony Medcalfe, friend
Thomas Watkinson, witness
Giles Rayment, witness

Places
London

Relevant Events
Harbert Akehurst was buried 21 Jul 1653 at St James Garlickhithe, London.

Harbert Akehurst is almost certainly the son of Harbert Akehurst and Susanna of Hellingly, East Sussex. William Bonnicke married Susanna Akherst, widow, on 17 Oct 1615 at Hellingly, Sussex. Susanna is Harbert's mother.

His father, also a Harbert Akehurst, left a will proved 15 Mar 1614 at Lewes, East Sussex (ESRO: PBT 1/1/14/183) which mentions his sons Harbert, John and Thomas Akehurst.

There is a marriage of a Harbert Akehurste and Jone Backsie on 18 Feb 1627 at St Andrew by the Wardrobe, London. One wonders if Backsie is a corruption of Bonnicke?

Harbert mentions a kinsman, John Akehurst (not his brother John Akehurst). This may be the John Akehurst (1601-1657) who married Anna Newington in 1631 at Hellingly, East Sussex. This John Akehurst was the son of Harbert's uncle, John Akehurst (c1595-1630) of Hastings.

Lydia Bonnick bap. 24 Nov 1605 at Heathfield All Saints in Sussex, daughter of William Bonnick the younger.
Josias Bonnicke bap. 24 Apr 1608 at Heathfield All Saints, Sussex, son of William Bonnicke the younger

Based on the surnames appearing in the above will, the following marriages would appear to be connected to Harbert Akehurst but how they are connected to the family tree is yet to be determined:

1. Joan Ackhurst and Matthew Tayllor married on 24 Apr 1587 at Hailsham, Sussex.
2. Elizabeth Ackerst and James Emery married on 23 Dec 1592 at Hailsham, Sussex.
3. Mary Akehurst and John Rosse married on 29 Sep 1622 at Hellingly, Sussex.
4. Margaret Akherste and Nicholas Bodlle [Bodell?] on 21 Sep 1612 at Hailsham, Sussex.

The will of Harbert Akehurst's grandmother Joan Akeherst (see 12. Will of Joan Akeherst of Hellingly, 1604) mentions an Elizabeth Goodwyn, one of her daughter's children. The following marriage may therefore be connected also:

5. Sarah Goodwin, widow, and Thomas Bromley obtained a marriage licence on 27 Jul 1625 (Archdeaconry of Lewes).

<u>Family Tree</u>
See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" in Chapter 2.

## 32. Will of Raphe Akehurst of Lewes, 1654

(TNA: PROB 11/248/299)
Made: 23rd December 1652
Proved: 26th June 1654

In the name of God Amen The three and twentieth daie of December in the yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred fiftie and two I **Raphe Akehurst** of the parishe of St Thomas in the Cliffe neare Lewis in the Countie of Sussex Marchant being sicke and weake in Bodie but of good and perfect understanding Thanks be given unto Allmightie God doe make and ordaine this my last will and Testament in wryteing in manner and forme following First I commend my Soule into the Hands of Allmightie God my Creatour hopeing assuredlie to be save though the merritts of Jesus Christ my blessed Saviour and Redeemer And my Body to the Earthe from whence it came to de decentlie buried by my Executor hereafter named Item I give and bequeath unto my **Eldest daughter Elizabeth Akehurst** the full summe of twoe hundred pounds of lawfull englishe money to be paied unto her in and upon the daie of her marriage by my Executor hereafter named And in the meane while I will that the Interest and proffitts of the sayd twoe hundred pounds shalbe yearlie paied unto her towards her maintenance Item I give unto the said **Elizabeth** twoe stooles and one Chaire of irish stitch and my Chest of Drawers to be delivered unto her upon Demand Item I give and bequeath unto my **youngest daughter Laetitia Akehurst** the like summe of twoe hundred pounds of lawfull englishe money to be paied unto her by my Executor hereafter named in and upon the daie of her marriage And in the meane while I will that the Interest and proffitt of the sayd twoe hundred pounds shalbe yearlye paied unto her towards her maintenance And also I give unto her three Cushoons of irishe stitche together with the Cabbinett to be likewise delivered unto her upon demand Item I give and bequeath unto my **youngest sonne Raphe Akehurst** the full summe of fiftie pounds of lawfull money of England to be paied unto him within one monthe after my deathe And alsoe the Bedstedle and table in the dyneinge Roome of my dwelling house the largest Cipres Chest in my lodging Chamber the table and liverie Cubbord in the Hall And alsoe all the Bo…. Weights and Scales Seacoles Irons Tongs Shovell Spitts and jack in the Kitchin And alsoe all my Coppers and brewe vessels with theire Appurtenances And all the Standards whatsoever belonging to my said House in which I now live And as touching the disposing of such reall Estate wherewith God hath blessed mee I will and bequeath the same in manner and forme following First whereas I have bought of **Harbert Springett Esq** one parcell of Land in Ringmer neare the Churche there called the parsonage Croft which I have paide for although the Estate thereof be not as yet conveied unto mee Now my will is that **Mary my deare and loving wife** shall have the said Parcell of Land during her life And after her decease I give the same to my said **sonne Ralphe** and to his heires for ever And I doe desire that the same may be conveyed by **Mr Springett** accordinglie Item I give unto **my said wife** for and during the Tearme of her natural life all that house whereon I now dwell together with all the Outhouses Edifices Buildings Backsides Gardens Orchards and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging And after her decease I give the same house and premises to my said **Sonne Raphe** and his heires for ever And my will and mind is that my said wife shall demise all the house parcell of Lande and all the premises aforesaid with the appurtenances unto my said **sonne Raphe** for threescore yeares if hee shall soe long live att the yearlie Rent of twentie pounds payeable half yearlie by equall portions my said sonne thereupon giveing good securitie for the payment thereof which twentie pounds per Annum is in liewe of one Annuitie of twentie pounds a year which was given unto her by **her former husband out of his lands in Kent** during her life which Annuitie I caused her to sell away And I receaved the money for the same And further my will is that my said wife shall and may reserve to her selfe and her servants out of the said demise the Hall Chamber together with libertie to make use of such Roomes waies and passages there as shalbe necessarie for her use And I give her convenient household stuffe for

her use during her life onlie And after her deathe I will the said household stuffe to be devided between my **sonne Raphe and my twoe daughters** or which of them shee shall please Item I give all the Rest of my householdstuffe to **my foure Children** equallie to be devided betweene them And all the Reside of my Goods and Chattels Debts Creditts and personall Estate whatsoever unbequeathed (my debts legacies and funerall expences being first paied and discharged) I give and bequeath unto my loving **sonne Alexander Akehurst** whome I make sole Executor of this my last will and Testament desiring him if my estate will beare it to add fiftie pounds more to my said sonne Raphes portion and to make up my said twoe daughters **Eliazbeth and Laetita** their several portions three hundred pounds a peece Provided they match with his consent In Witnesse whereof I have hereunto this my last will sett my seale and to eache sheete thereof being two in number my hand the daie and yeare above written **Ra: Akehurst** Signed sealed and published in the presence of **Sam Palmer John Hanson**

This Will was proved at London the six and twentieth daie of June in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hundred fiftie foure before the Judges for probate of wills and granting Administrations lawfully authorized by the Oathe of **Alexander Akehurst** the sonne of the said deceased and sole Executor in the said Will to whome the Administration was Committed of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Debts of the sayd deceased the sayd Alexander Akehurst being first legally sworne will and faithfully to administer the same
*(Transcribed by Rosie Ansell July 2016.)*

**NOTES:**

People
Raphe Akehurst, Merchant, testator
Mary Akehurst, wife
Mary's former husband (unnamed)
Elizabeth Akehurst, eldest daughter
Leticia Akehurst, youngest daughter
Raphe Akehurst, youngest son
Alexander Akehurst, son, executor
Harbett Springett Esq.
Sam Palmer, witness
John Hanson, witness

Places
Lewes
Ringmer
Kent

Relevant Events

Raffe Akehurst buried 18 Jan 1653/54 at St Thomas a'Beckett, Lewes.

Ralph Akehurst and Mary Godman received a marriage licence on 14 Apr 1640, Pagham & Tarring Peculiar. Ralph Akehurst of St Thomas Cliffe, Lewes, merchant and Mary Godman, widow, of the same parish. Sponsors: Ralph Akehurst; William Margerum Chichester citizen & merchant; John Draper Lewes sempster. (SFHG marriage index)

Raphe's first wife (and the mother of his children) was named Leticia. Her burial at St Thomas a'Beckett at Lewes on 4 Aug 1631 states "wife of Ralphe".

In 1622, Edward Paine of Eastbourne denied colluding with Ralph Akehurst of Cliffe [Lewes] to smuggle a wool cargo abroad. (Colin Brent, "Pre-Georgian Lewes: c890-1714: the emergence of a county town," 1st Edition (2004), p.258)

In 1638 Ralph [Raphe] Akehurst was suspected of smuggling wheat down river. He traded legitimately with Dieppe and Calais, Waterford and London.[57]

Family Tree

See Tree 8. "Folkington & Jevington" in Chapter 2.

[57] Colin Brent, "Pre-Georgian Lewes: c890-1714: the emergence of a county town," 1st Edition (2004), p.311

## 33. Will of John Akehurst of Warbleton, 1657

(PCC: PROB 11/268/302)
Made: 5 Aug 1657
Proved: 21 Oct 1657

In the name of God Amen I **John Akehurst** of Warbleton in the Countye of Sussex gent beinge of perfect memorie & understandinge (praised be God) doe constitute and ordaine this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme followinge First I comit my Soule to God And my bodye to the earth trusting in the meritts of Christ that after death shall putt an end to my mortall Condicon I shall live with him in glory Item I give to the poore of Warbleton and of Hellingly Five poundes a peece To be paid within one yeare after my decease by myne Executors Item I give to my brother **Thomas Akehurst** And to my sisters **Mary {?}est Anne Francke** and **Deborah Winter** to each of them a ringe of gould of twenty shillings price To be delivered to them within one yeare after my death by myne Executrice Item I give to my Daughter **Anne** Fourteene hundred poundes And to my // Daughter **Mary** fourteene hundred poundes One thousand poundes I appoint to be paid to either of them within one yeare after my Decease And thirty poundes to each of them for their maintenance to be paid to them within that year And I appoint that the other fower hundred poundes given to each of them shalbe paid to them within three yeares after my decease And if either of my Daughters shall depart this life unmarryed before any of the payments aforesaid shalbe due my minde is that her porcon shalbe equally devided betwixt my sonne **John** and my other daughter surviveinge Item I give all my underwoodes in Hellingly unto myne Executrice with full liberty of three yeares for the fellinge coalinge and carryinge away the said Coales and Woodes Item I give to my sonne **John** Tenne poundes to be paid to him within one yeare after my decease Item I give to my wife **Anne** Twoe hundred poundes and halfe myne houshold and her dwellinge in the house of Craw{l}e and the benefitt of the gardens and Tenne Cords of wood and fower hundred of faggotts during my Lease of the said Crawl And my will is that my daughters **Anne** and **Mary** shall have the lynnen that they have spunne & made Item I give to my mother **Anne Stonestreete** fourteene poundes by the yeare in consideracon of her Annuitye wch shee resigned to be paid to her quarterlye by myne Executrice and in case there be a faylinge of payment I doe give her and an[n]uitye of fourteene poundes out of all my land to be paid as formerlie with liberty of distreyninge Item I give **Richard Dicker** Five poundes to be paid within a yeare after my decease Item to **John Pigherst Mary Daw** and **Joseph Rogers** Twenty shillinges a peece Item I give to my Cosin **John Goldinge** a gold ringe of Fortye shillinges And to **Mr Joseph Newnigton** and **Mr Richard Weller** a ringe of gold of three poundes a peece as a token of my love And I make and ordeyne my wife **Anne** sole and onely Executrice of this my will And my will is that my debts and legacies beinge paid that the overplus of my estate shall be given to my sonne **John** And I appoint **Mr Joseph Newnigton** and **Mr Richard Weller** Overseers of this my Will Desiringe them to assist my wife mine Executrice with their best advice and Counsell In wittnes whereof I have here unto sett my hand and seale this present 5t of August 1657

**John Akehurst** Published and declared in the presence of **Ri. Weller Richard Del{v}es Letitia Delves Richard Dicker** The marke of **John Pigherst{e}**

Probate: 21st October to **Anne Akehurst**, relict and executrix.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 9 September 2018 for Geoffrey Barber)*

**NOTES:**

People
John Akehurst, gentleman, testator
Thomas Akehurst, brother
Mary {?}est, sister [Likely to be Rest/Reyste, could be Roust. No marriage found. A Mary Reyste was buried Hastings All Saints on 26 Apr 1645. A Margaret Roust, widow, was buried at Warbleton 18 Sep 1625.]
Anne Francke, sister
Deborah Winter, sister
Anne Akehurst, daughter
Mary Akehurst, daughter
John Akehurst, son
Anne Akehurst, wife, executrix
Anne Stonestreet, mother [stated as mother but thought to be mother-in-law]
Richard Dicker
John Pigherst, servant
Mary Daw, servant
Joseph Rogers, servant
John Goldinge, cousin
Mr Joseph Newington, overseer
Mr Richard Weller, overseer, witness
Richard Delves, witness
Letitia Delves, witness
John Pigherst, witness

Places
Hellingly
Warbleton]
Crawle [Cralle Place, near Cowbeech]
Hastings

Relevant Events

John Akehurst was buried on 12 August 1657 at Hellingly.

Deborah Arres [mistranscription of Acres for Akehurst] married John Winter 3 Sep 1637 at Hastings St Clement.

John's sister Anne Akehurst married Richard Baker c1620 (refer his will listed below). Anne Baker, widow, then married Richard Francke c1639.[58]

The Anne Stonestreet mentioned in the will is considered to be John Akehurst's wife Anne/Anna's mother having remarried a Stonehurst. The SFHG Marriage Index has Ann Newingtone married William Stonstreete on 17 Jul 1621 at Hailsham.

John's sister Anne's daughter Mary Baker married Raphe Akehurst in 1653 and became a well known early Quaker in Lewes. Her life is reasonably well documented.[59, 60]

[58] Assignment of Mortgage: Date: 17 Aug 1691. (ESRO: MIL 1/15/2) – good summary in ESRO online catalogue.
[59] David Hitchin, "Quakers in Lewes: an informal history," 2nd Edition (2010).
[60] Colin Brent, "Pre-Georgian Lewes: c890-1714: the emergence of a county town," 1st Edition (2004).

Other

A sale of land in 1654 by John Akehurst Senior of Warbleton and his son and heir, John Akehurst:

**Bargain and Sale**. [61]

Date: 6 Apr 1654.

Description: John Akehurst the elder of Warbleton, gent., and his son and heir John Akehurst the younger, to Thomas Delve of Herstmonceux, yeoman - for £120 - of 2 pieces of fresh marsh land called Harebettinge Marsh containing 9 acres in Hailsham, bounding to lands of John Fuller, E., John Read, W., Richard Waterhouse, S. and the common sewer, N

Signatures destroyed by removal of tags

Witnesses to deed and livery of seisin:- John Smith, Richard Dicker

**Bargain and Sale**[62]

Date: 7 Dec 1675

Description: By Thomas Delve of Hailsham, husbandman, eldest son and heir of Joseph Delve late of Hailsham deceased., who was only brother and heir of Thomas Delve late of Herstmonceux, deceased., to John Heathfield of Hellingly, yeoman, - for £40 - of two pieces of fresh marshland called Berghers otherwise the Harebeting Marsh, containing 9 ac. in Hailsham, bounding to lands of Henry Godman, clerk, called Lubbershale, E., lands of Nicholas Rogers, sometime Reeds, W., lands late Waterhouses called Ratsland, S. and the common sewer called Hersthaven, N.; the premises being in the occupation of John Fuller, gent. and were, 6 April, 1654, granted by John Akehurst the elder and John Akehurst the younger to the said Thomas Delve (see No. SAS-PN/420)

Mark of Thomas Delve and seal

Witnesses to deed and livery of seisin:- Simon Tutt, Henry Coby

Family Tree

See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" in Chapter 2.

[61] Bargain and Sale. Date: 6 Apr 1654. East Sussex Record Office: SAS/PN 420

[62] Bargain and Sale. Date: 7 Dec 1675. East Sussex Record Office: SAS/PN 431

## 34. Will of Mary Akehurst of Brede, 1661/62

(ESRO: PBT 1/6/10)
Made: 24 Jan 1661/62
Proved: 29 Jan 1661/62
www.familysearch.org (film: 1885592; image: 496)

The last Will and Testament nuncupative of **Mary Akehurst** late of Brede in the County of Sussex Spinster deceased made & delivered the xxijth day of January Anno Dni 1661 (Stilo Anglie)[63] or some other day thereabouts as followeth [most of the two following lines scored through] Thatt is to say [remainder of line scored through] It shee gave to **John welles** sone of **Daniell welles** twentye pounds to be paid within t{wo}[64] yeares after her decease by **robert howell** to wh{hom}e **Daneill wells** and his wife shall apoint and the use of {it} towards his bringinge up and scoollinge and then **John welles** to have it at one and twenty yeares of age

It shee gave to **Hennary weeks** on shillinge

It Mary Akehurst did give to **Anne weekes** a sillver bodkine

It shee gave to **Daniell Akehurst** a sillver spone

It shee gave to **Ann Akehurst** her best gowne and her best hat

It shee gave to **Daniell welles** wife a trunke and all that is in it

It shee gave **goody wells** a brase posnett

It she gave the Chest of pewter to be to devided betwene **Goodye Welles goodye packham goodye baker & goody edman{s}** equalye

It shee gave **goodye welles** her best see{u}t of wollen Cloaths

It shee gave **goodye baker** her greene Cotte with a lace

It shee gave **goodye edmans** a sarge wakscot and a rede cot{e}

It shee gave **Elizabeth eve{n}den** a cot{e} and a wascot

It shee gave all the rest of her goods that did remaine to **Robert Howell** her brother who she made executor and morover if **John wells** above said did dye then the monye{s} to goe to his father or mother and ther heyers

Jennuary the 22 day 1661

**Nicolas Howell** his marke

**John Moate**

Probate: 29th January 1661[65]

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 30 August 2018)*

[63] English style.
[64] Hole in the paper at this point.
[65] Noted at the bottom right hand corner of the page: *probat 29° Januarii 1661.* No further details.

**NOTES:**

People
Mary Akehurst (testator)
John Welles, son of Daniel Welles
Robert Howell, brother
Hennery [Henry] Weekes
Ann Weekes
Daniel Akehurst
Ann Akehurst
Goody Welles (is this Mary Welles nee Fuller?)
Goody Packham
Goody Baker
Goody Edmans
Elizabeth Evenden
Nicholas Howell, witness
John Moate, witness

N.B. Goody is not a Christian name but a title like Mr or Mrs. It was used for people of yeoman/husbandman status, below that of gentry. Goody is short for Goodwife and the male equivalent is Goodman.

Places
Brede
Crowhurst

Relevant Events
Mary Akhurst was buried 29 Jan 1661/62 at Brede.
Daniel Welles married Mary Fuller on 1 Jan 1654/55 at Crowhurst. Mary Fuller is likely to be the granddaughter of Susan Ayhurst named in her will proved 1638 (see below).

Possible Relevant Events
Robert Howell bap. 1 Oct 1620 son of John Howell at Waldron.
Nicholas Howell bap. 2 Apr 1637 son of John Howell at Waldron.
(Also baptisms for John 1625, Samuel 1627 and Mary 1629)
John Howell buried 7 Mar 1607 at Waldron, shoemaker.
John Howell buried 28 Jan 1658 at Brede, son of Robert
Robert Howell of Brede, yeoman, widower, and Ann Nicholls of Precincts Canterbury, widow of late John Nicholls late Halden obtained a marriage licence on 1 Aug 1663. (SFHG Marriage Index)

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Susan (--?--),** b. c1555, d. 1638 at Brede
+ **(--?--) Howell,** m. c1575, d. before 1583
└──── **Ann Howell,** b. c1580
+ **Thomas Kingwood,** m. 1600 at Heathfield, d. before 1614
+ **Thomas Chase,** b. c1580, m. 1614 at Warbleton
+ **Thomas Ayhurst,** m. 1583 at Heathfield, d. before 1638
├──── **William Ayhurst,** b. c1585
└──── **Mary Ayhurst,** b. c1590
+ **Richard Fuller,** b. c1580, m. 1609 at Heathfield
└── **Mary Fuller,** b. c1620
+ **Daniel Welles,** m. 1655 at Crowhurst
├── **Daniel Welles,** bap. 1657 at Bexhill, bur. 1657 at Crowhurst
└── **John Welles,** bap. 1659 at Bexhill

The testator Mary Akehurst was a spinster and cannot be placed in this tree due to lack of information. She could be a daughter of William Ayhurst or maybe a cousin descended from a brother or sister of Thomas Ayhurst. The other Akehursts mentioned in the will (Daniel and Ann) likewise cannot be placed.

There is likely a connection through the surname HOWELL. Susan AYHERST is thought to be Susanna HOWELL, widow, who married Thomas AYERST on 25 Nov 1583 at Heathfield.
Also, granddaughter Mary FULLER is named in the 1638 will and her son, John WELLES is a beneficiary of the 1661 will. (see WELLES-FULLER marriage above).

## 35. Will of Raphe Akehurst of Lewes, 1666

(TNA: PROB 11/322/49)
Made: 27th August 1666
Proved: 5th October 1666

In the name of God Amen the Twenty Seaventh day of August in the yeare of our lord God one Thousand Six Hundred Sixty and Six And in the Eighteenth yeare of the Raigne of our Soveraigne Lord King Charles the Second of England etc I **Raphe Akehurst of Cliffe neare Lewes** in the County of Sussex Haberdasher **now resideing in the Citty of Dublin** in the Realme of Ireland being sicke and weake of body But of sound and perfect memory (Praise be given to God for the same) And knowing the uncertenty of this life on Earth And being desirous to settle things in order doe make this my last will and Testament in manner and forme following (That is to say) First and principally I Commend my soule to Almighty God my Creator Assuredly believing that I shall receive full pardon and free remission of all my sinnes And be saved by the pretious death and merits of my blessed Saviour Christ Jesus And my body to the earth from whence it was taken To be buried in such Christian manner As to my frends within the CItty of Dublin shalbe thought meete and convenient And as touching my worldly Estate As the Lord by much mercy hath beene pleased to lend me my will and meaning is the same shalbe ymployed and bestowed as by this my will is expressed And first I doe revoake renounce frustrate and make void All wills by me formerly made And declare and appoint this my last will and Testament Item I give and bequeath unto my **dearly beloved wife Mary Akehurst** Two hundred pounds Sterling Currant and lawfull money of and in England To be paid unto her out of the First money That shalbe raysed out of the issues and profits of the land that **Robert Fennell** gent made over unto me by Deed which Two hundred pounds I devise unto her in consideracion of that house I lately soulde of hers in the Towne and Port of Hastings in the County of Sussex aforesaid Item I give and devise unto my **Eldest sonne Ralphe Akehurst** the summe of Fifty pounds Sterling Currant and lawfull money of and in England And my will and meaning is that the said Fifty pounds shalbe ymployed and given to binding ……. as Apprentice to a Lynnen Draper as soone as he shalbe capable to be bound Apprentice All the rest of my goodes and Chattells my debs Legacies and funeral Expences discharged I give and bequeath to my **Foure youngest Children Samuell Akehurst Alexander Akehurst John Akehurst and Thomas Akehurst** to be equally devided betwixt them And my will and meaning is that the remainder of my Estate devised to my said Foure youngest Children be imployed for their best Advantage until they attaine the age of one and Twenty yeares And if any or either of my said Foure Children happen to depart this life before hee or they attaine their severall ages aforesaid That then my will and meaning is That the same shalbe equally devided betwixt the Survivors of my said Children And my will and desire is That my said wife with the advice and consent of my Executors and Overseers hereafter named Doe sett the Shopp with soe much of the House in the Cliffe aforesaid for the better putting of my goods and the advancement of my Estate And my will and meaning is That my said wife and Children doe keepe the back part of my house aforesaid and follow such Trade in buying and selling as shee with the advice of my Executors and Overseers shall thinke most fitt and convenient Item my will and desire is That **my House and Two Gardens in Hastings** aforesaid be sold by my Executors for the best advantage of my said Foure Children And the Twelveth part of that **Barke I have with Captaine Tetterffeild of Brighthelmston** in the County of Sussex aforesaid which Cost me Thirty pounds Sterling But that I leave to the discretion of my wife and my Executors whether to be sold or not but in my Thoughts it may be usefull to her for Coales and Salt Item I doe make and ordaine my welbeloved **Brother Alexander Akehurst of Leatherhead in the County of Surrey gent** my full and sole Executor of this my last will and Testament And also I desire my **Loveing Frends Mr Thomas Parge? of Stoneham and Mr William Elphicke of Cliffe aforesaid my Overseers** To see this my last

will and Testament performed In Witnes whereof I the said Ralph Akehurst have hereunto sett my hand and seale and published this to be my last will and Testament the day and yeare First above written Ra: Akehurst Signed sealed Published and declared in the presence of Chr: Arundell **Geo Tracy Robert Fennell Ri Baker William Carter**

Probatum fuit Testamentum suprascriptum apud ades Exon Coram Petro Lane in Artibus magistro Surrogato venerabilis viri Domini Guilielmi Mericke militis Legum Doctoris Curia Prerogativa Cantuariensis Magistro Custodis sive Commissarii legitime constituto Quinto die mensis Octobris Anno Domini Millesimo Sexcentesimo Sexagesimo Sexto Juramento **Alexander Akehurst** fratris dicti defuncti et Executoris in huiusmodi Testamento nominato Cui Commissa fuit Administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum Jurium et Creditorum dicti defuncti de bene et fideliter Administrando eadem Ad Sancta Dei Evangelia Jurat
*(Transcribed by Rosie Ansell July 2016)*

**NOTES:**

People
Raphe Akehurst, Haberdasher, testator
Mary Akehurst, wife
Ralphe Akehurst, eldest son
Robert Fennell, gent
Samuel Akehurst, son
Alexander Akehurst, son
John Akehurst, son
Thomas Akehurst, son
Captain Tetterfield of Brighton
Alexander Akehurst of Leatherhead, Surrey, brother, executor
Thomas Parge? Of Stoneham, friend, overseer
William Elphicke of Cliffe, friend, overseer
George Tracy, witness
Robert Fennell, witness
Richard Baker, witness
William Carter, witness

Places
Lewes
Hastings
Brighton
Stoneham
Dublin, Ireland
Leatherhead, Surrey
Burwash
Jevington
Willingdon

Relevant Events
Raphe Akehurst married Mary Baker on 11 Aug 1653 at Warbleton. Randolph [Raphe] Akehurst of Cliffe, Lewes and Mary Baker of Burwash. (SFHG marriage index)

Other

Raphe's wife Mary Baker was an early Quaker in Lewes. Aspects of her life are documented in:

1. "Quakers in Lewes: an informal history" by David Hitchin (2nd edition 2010)
2. "Pre-Georgian Lewes : c890-1714: the emergence of a county town" by Colin Brent (2004)

The following document supports the origin of this Akehurst line being Jane Akehurst of Folkington which is adjacent to both Jevington and Willingdon:

**Mortgage by Lease for £120.** Date: 3 June 1656. [66]

Description: Thomas Akehurst of Jevington, yeoman, and his wife Susanna Akehurst to Ralph Akehurst of the Cliffe near Lewes, haberdasher.

1. 3 pieces of land called Fritters Water, Cuthale and the Knowle (9 acres) in Jevington and Willingdon.
2. a close called the Two acre piece (2 acres) in Jevington, one other piece in Eastwish in Willingdon (1 rood), another piece (3 roods) in a field called Stonefield in Willingdon, several pieces in Jevington (4 acres).

Witnesses: Richard Lewis, Jane Lewis, John Store, Thomas Snatt etc

(see admon for Edward Akehurst of Jevington, 1638, for Thomas Akehurst's family tree).

The following document provides the genealogy of Mary Baker:

**Assignment of mortgage for £138 13s 4d.** Date: 17 Aug 1691.[67]

Description: Ann Wenham of Laughton, widow, to William Benbrigg of Boreham Street in Wartling, gent

1. The Gulphes and The Halton (18 acres) with a barn, occupied by Richard Atherall in 1639.
2. The Halton otherwise The Gallowes Field (10 acres), occupied by Henry Dowle in 1639.

recites: resulting from the negotiation for the marriage between Richard Franck and Ann Franck for securing their payment of £200 which he had received from her, and which by agreement between them should be repaid to the four children of Richard Baker which he had by Ann (Richard Baker, Mary Baker, John Baker and Abraham Baker) as part of the legacies given them by their father's will, he granted a 99-year lease to Ann's mother Mary Akehurst of Hastings, widow, and to Richard Baker's brother John Baker of Tunbridge, gent, to be void if the payments were made, 6 Sep 1639; death of John Baker under 21 several years ago; Richard Baker, Mary wife of Ralph Akehurst of The Cliffe and Abraham Baker have long since achieved the age of 21 but neither Richard Franck in his lifetime nor his executors have made the payments; liability of Ann Franck, as executrix of Richard Baker, for the legacies to her children; death of Mary Akehurst shortly after the indenture of 1639, whereby her interest passed to John Baker late of Tunbridge by survivorship in trust for Ann Franck; Ann Franck has paid the legacies and is entitled to be repaid; assignment of the property by John Baker to John James of Dallington, yeoman, and Henry Cruttenden of Burwash, yeoman (since deceased) in trust for Ann Franck, 25 Oct 1655; assignment by Francis Franck of Hastings, gent (now deceased), son and heir of Richard Franck of Hastings, clerk, with his mother Ann Franck of Cliffe near Lewes, widow, late wife of Richard Franck and previously wife of Richard Baker of Hastings, to John James of Dallington, yeoman, in trust for Ann Franck, 26 Apr 1666; assignment by John James of Dallington, yeoman, to Thomas Snatt of London, haberdasher and Mary Akehurst of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow, in trust for Ann Franck of Lewes, widow, 16 Jun 1670; mortgage for £130 by Thomas Snatt of

[66] *Mortgage by Lease for £120*. Date: 3 June 1656. (ESRO: SAS/C 456)

[67] *Assignment of mortgage for £138 13s 4d*. Date: 17 Aug 1691. (ESRO: MIL 1/15/2)

Hunton in Kent, gent and Mary Akehurst of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow, with Ann Franck of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow and executrix of Richard Baker of Hastings, to Ann Wenham of Laughton, 15 Mar 1690; £138 13s 4d now owing
Witnesses: Richard Isted, Samuel Isted

Family Tree

See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" and Tree 8. "Folkington & Jevington" in Chapter 2.

.

## 36. Will of Anne Akehurst of Heathfield, 1680/81

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/35/296B)
Made: 5 Jan 1680/81
Proved:
www.familysearch.org (film no 1885903; image: 595)

**Akehurst 1680**
January the 5th 1680
I **Anne Akehurst** of the Parrish of Heathfield in the Countie of Sussex, widdow, doe make and ordaine this my last will and Testament in manner and forme following
I give and bequeath unto my Daughter **Elizabeth Parkes** now wife of **John Parkes** of Waldron one chest, one paire of Sheets and one pair of Curtains & five shillings of monie to her delivered unto the said of **Elizabeth** by **John Blaber** my son in lawe within three months after my decease.
The rest of my goods chattells and houshold stuff I give and bequeath unto my daughter **Marie Blaber** now wife of **John Blaber** of Heathfield in the same Countie aforesaid whome I doe make and ordaine my sole and alone Executrix of this my last will and Testament.
The mark of **Anne X Akehurst**
Sealed and delivered
in the presence of us
J Goodman
Tho Gower
The mark of Margery Blaber
*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 28 April 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
Anne Akehurst, widow, testatrix
Dorothy Parkes, daughter
John Parkes, son-in-law of Waldron
John Blaber, son-in-law of Heathfield
Marie Blaber, daughter, executrix
John Goodman, witness
Thomas Gower, witness
Margery Blaber, witness

Places
Heathfield
Waldron
Hellingly

Relevant Events
Widow Akehurst buried at Hellingly on 8 Jan 1681, "widow of Heathfield".
The following is from an earlier generation but could be connected:
John Parks married Sarah Ackarst [Akehurst] on 30 Sep 1611 at Heathfield.
The following marriage could be relevant:
John Parkes married Elizabeth Wickens on 30 May 1671 at Waldron, both of this parish. It raises the question as to whether this was a second marriage for Elizabeth or she and Mary were daughters of an earlier marriage of Ann's. (SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Ann (--?--),** b. c1610, d. 1681 at Heathfield
+ **(--?--) Akehurst,** b. c1610, m. c1630, d. before 1680
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** b. c1635, d. 1714 at Waldron
  + **John Parkes,** m. c1670
    - **Elizabeth Parkes,** bap. 1672 at Waldron
    - **William Parkes,** bap. 1674 at Waldron
- **Marie Akehurst,** b. c1640
  + **John Blaber,** m. c1660, d. 1709 at Lewes
    - **Jane Blaber,** bap. 1660 at Lewes
    - **John Blaber,** bap. 1664 at Lewes
    - **Thomas Blaber,** bap. 1666 at Lewes
    - **Edward Blaber,** bap. 1668 at Lewes
    - **Joseph Blaber,** bap. 1670 at Lewes
    - **Benjamin Blaber,** bap. 1670 at Lewes
    - **Mary Blaber,** bap. 1673 at Lewes, d. 1674 at Lewes

Note: The above tree needs to be treated with caution. Ann's marriage to an Akehurst has not been found. Also, marriages for the daughters have not been found and they could easily be daughters of a previous marriage of Ann's.

## 37. Will of Thomas Ackhurst of Chiddingly, 1680/81

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/35/298B)
Made: 24 Sep 1680
Proved: 29 Jan 1680/81
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1885903; images: 598-599)

In the name of God Amen, I **Thomas Ackhurst** of Chiddingly Glover being sick of body but in sound and disposing memory prais bee too God my Creator hoping thorou ye merits of my Savioure to obtaine remission of all my sinnes and my body too the earth too bee decently buried by the discretion of my Executrix herein after named and as for my worldly goodes the Lord hath lent mee I dispose as follows. Imprimis I give too my loving wife **Jone** alle my goodes and chatels all debtes and monies during her life and after her death too bee be equally divided one halfe too **Thomas Streters [Streeter's]** children of Chiddingly deceased to his children equally divided and the other half to **John …….. [Acorus?]** of ……. and **John Delves** children, his wifes sisters children too bee equally divided too bee paid within three months after her death or ……. I do put in trust **Nicholas Willard** of Arlington and **John Reynolds** of Ripe too bee sethes? in trus to take and receive and pay his and her legacies to be paid their charges and this to be my last Will and Testament this 24th day of September 1680 who has here unto set his hand and seall in the presenc of
**Thomas X Ackurs** his marke
**Richard Willard**
William S?????? ??
Nathanell Anscom

29th January 1680
[Latin] …… Joana Relicta ……..
*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 28 April 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
Thomas Akehurst, glover, testator
Joan Akehurst, wife
Thomas Streeter of Chiddingly
John Acorus?
John Delves
Nicholas Willard of Arlington
John Reynolds of Ripe

Places
Chiddingly
Ripe
Arlington
Laughton
Hellingly

Relevant Events

Thomas Akehurst buried 27 Sep 1680 at Chiddingly.
Thomas Akehurst and Joanna Petit Married at Laughton on 15 Aug 1661.
A widow Ackhurst was buried at Chiddingly on 4 Oct 1663. Thomas's mother?
Possiblities for Thomas's baptism include:
Thomas Akehurst bap. 25 Jun 1640 at Jevington, son of Thomas Akehurst.
Thomas Akehurst bap. 28 Oct 1638 at Folkington, son of Edward Akehurst.
Thomas Akehurst bap. 8 Aug 1624 at Wilmington, son of John Akehurst.
John Delph [Delve] married Ann Petit at Laughton on 16 Jun 1645.
John Delve married Mary Pettite at Hellingly on 13 Feb 1643/44.
Thomas Streeter buried 21 Apr 1677 at Chiddingly.
Johane Petite bap. 20 Apr 1627 at Laughton, daughter of Thomas Petite.
John Arckoll of Alfriston married Mary Pettit, widow, on 10 Jul 1632 at Heathfield.
John Archoll of Alfriston married widow Foster on 9 Aug 1647 at Wilmington.
Banns: Dec 1656 William Pettet, husbandman of Alciston, and Mary Streater of the same parish, at Lewes St Michael.
(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree

(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Thomas Akehurst,** b. c1635, d. 1680 at Chiddingly

+ **Joanna Pettit,** bap. 1627 at Laughton, m. 1661 at Laughton

## 38. Will of Thomas Akeherst of Westham, 1682

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/36/29B)
Made: 6 Oct 1680
Proved: 5 Jun 1682
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1885904; images: 140-141)

The last Will and Testament of me **Thomas Akeherst** of Westham in the County of Sussex yeoman being in good bodily health and of good remembrance thanks be given to Almighty God therefore made this sixth day of October Anno domini 1680. First I will that all my debts which I shall truly owe to any person or persons at the time of my decease be justly paid Item I give all my Estate whatsoever (after my debts legacies and funeral expenses paid & discharged) unto my two sons **William Akeherst** and **Thomas Akeherst** & my mind is that my son William shall have ten pounds more than his brother Thomas. Also I give to my daughter **Wenham** twenty shillings. Also I give to **Elizabeth** my wife five shillings And I do will and appoint that the monies given hereby to my said two sons shall be paid unto them at their several & respective ages of one & twenty years. And I do ordain and make **Henry Coby** the elder of Hailsham & my brother **John Akeherst** of Hellingly to be Executors of this my will whome I do desire to put forth as an apprentice my said son **Thomas** to such trade as they shall think fit In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seale the day and year above written.

**Thomas Akehurst**

Signed sealed and published and
declared in the presence of
**Simon Tutt**
**Mary Coby**
**Sarah X Yoakeherst**
Her mark

This to be added to my Will, I give one third part of my household stuff to my daughter Wenham and I also will that if either of my two sons shall happen to die before they attain the age of one and twenty years that then the portion of him so dying shall be paid to the survivor of them.

**Thomas Akehurst**

*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 28 April 2017)*

[Probates]
20$^{o}$ Augusti, 1681, juratus fuit **Johes Akehurst** unus extor_ in Test[ament]o suprascripto nominatus Cui comis{a}_ fuit onus executioni{s) eiusdem (reservata potestate &c) (ad petitione{m} Astie) p[er] me Zacheum Mountague Surrog_ //
5$^{to}$ Junij 1682
Juratus fuit **Henricus Coby** [word deleted] alter Executor_ in huimod_ Testamento nominat (ad petitio[n]em Barrett) p[er] me Zacheum Mountague Surrog_

*20th August 1681 was sworn **John Akehurst** one of the executors named in the above written will to whom was granted the burden of execution of the same (power reserved etc. at the petition of Astie) by me Zach{ary} Mountague Surrogate*
*5th June 1682 was sworn **Henry Coby** the other executor named in the said will (at the petition of Barrett) by me Zach{ary} Mountague Surrogate*

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 20 September 2018)*

Power is reserved to make a grant of probate to the second executor, should he ever ask for it. In this case he did, so there is a second grant of probate. Astie and Barrett are probably the names of the executors' legal representatives.

**NOTES:**

People
Thomas Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Elizabeth Akehurst, wife
William Akehurst, son
Thomas Akehurst, son
(?) Wenham, daughter
John Akehurst of Hellingly, brother, executor
Henry Coby the elder, executor
Simon Tutt, witness
Mary Coby, witness
Sarah Yoakeherst, witness

Places
Westham
Hailsham
Hellingly

Relevant Events

No burial found for Thomas Akehurst. SFHG Burial index for Westham has a gap 1669-1685.

Thomas Akehurst married Elizabeth Wilkin on 3 Dec 1655 at Westham. Marriage banns were read at Hailsham St Mary on 18 Nov 1655.

Thomas Akehurst, widower of Westham, and Elizabeth Beard, widow of Westham, obtained a marriage licence on 17 Apr 1680 (Archdeaconry of Lewes).

Thomas Akehurst married Elizabeth Beard on 24 Apr 1680 at Hastings St Clement.

Elizabeth Akehurst married Edward Wenham on 9 Oct 1679 at Hailsham. Edward of Hellingly, Elizabeth of Hailsham.

Regarding the witness Sarah Yoakeherst, there are two burials at Westham in 1586 where the surname is Yokehurste and Yokerste (Alice wife of Edward and Margaret daughter of Edward). (SFHG burial index). Also marriage of Thomas Yoakeherst and Mary Crippins at Westham 14 Nov 1652. Sarah is possibly their daughter.

Family Tree
See Tree 4. "Hailsham, Alfriston, West Firle" in Chapter 2.

## 39. Will of Francis Ayhurst of Ewhurst, 1688/89

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/38/184B)
Made: 19 Mar 1687
Buried: 29 Jan 1688/89
Proved: 11 Mar 1688/89
www.familysearch.org (film: 1885905; image: 712)

In the name of God Amen I **Francis Ayhurst** in the County of Sussex miller being sick of body but of sound and pfect mind and memory thanks be given to Almighty God for the same doe make and ordaine my last Will and Testamt in manner and forme following Frist [*sic*] and principlely I come[nd] my soul into the hands of Almighty God hopeing that through the merits of Jesus Christ I s[ha]ll receive full and free pardon of all my sins and as for my body I comit to the earth from whence it was taken to be buried in decent and Christian manner And as touching my temporall which it hath pleased God to bestowe upon me I give and dispose thereof as followeth Itt I give unto my sister **Mary** the sume of ten shillings to be paid to her within six months after my decease by my executor hereafter named Itt I Geave unto the seaven children of my aforesd sister Mary (that is to say) **John Falkner Samuel Falkner Daniell Falkner William Falkner Mary Falkner Sarah Falkner Hanna Falkner** the sume of five shillings to ever on of them to be pd to them within six months after my decease by my executor hereafter named Itt I give unto **John Watson** of Rochester in Kent the sume of five shillings to be pd to him within six months after my decease by my executor hereafter named Itt I give unto **Thomas Fuller** and to **Jane** his wife the sume of five shillings Itt I give unto **John** the son of the aforesd **Thomas Fuller** of Ewhurst aforesd the sume of five shillings to be pd to him when he shall attain his age of one and twenty years Itt all the rest and residue of my money goods debts and Chattells I give and bequeath[68] unto **Anne** my loving wife And I doe make ordaine nominate constitute and appoint the aforesd **Thomas Fuller** of Ewhurst Taylor to be my executor of this my last Will and Testament And I doe hereby make void and disanull all former and other Will and Wills by me made and doe make and ordain this to be my last Will and Testament In Witness that it is my last Will and Testament I have hereunto sett my hand and seal this nineteenth day of March in the fourth year of the Raigne of our soveraigne Lord James the second Now King of England &c Anoque Dni 1687

Sealed published and declared to be the last will and testament of the above written Francis Ayhurst in the psence of us after entering the word (bequeath) in the side of the paper

**thomes {C}ow{ses}** Sign[ed] X **Francis Ayhurst**
**George Cheesman**
**Jos {B}igg**

Probate: 11th March 1688 [1689] to Thomas Fuller, executor.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 30 August 2018)*

## NOTES:

People
Francis Ayhurst, miller, testator
Anne, wife
Mary, sister
John Falkner, son of Mary
Samuel Falkner, son of Mary

[68] Word added in the margin.

Daniell Falkner, son of Mary
William Falkner, son of Mary
Mary Falkner, daughter of Mary
Sarah Falkner, daughter of Mary
Hanna Falkner, daughter of Mary
John Watson of Rochester
Thomas Fuller of Ewhurst, taylor, executor
Jane, wife of Thomas Fuller
Thomas, son of Thomas Fuller
Thomas Cowses, witness
George Cheeseman, witness
Jos Bigg, witness

Places
Ewhurst
Rochester, Kent
Hawkhurst
Uckfield

Relevant Events
Francis Ayhurst buried 29 Jan 1688/89 at Ewhurst St James.
William Fawkner, husbandman of Hawkhurst, married Mary Ayhurst of Uckfield, Sussex on 20 Nov 1655 at Hawkhurst.

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Constance (--?--),** d. 1582 at Whatlington, admon 1582
+ **unknown spouse**
└── **John Ayhurst,** b. c1550
  + **Alice (--?--),** b. c1560, m. c1580, d. 1627 at Whatlington
  ├── **John Ayhurst,** b. c1585, d. 1635 at Uckfield, pro. 1635
  │ + **Ann Huckstep,** b. c1590, mlc. 1612, d. 1638 at Uckfield
  │ ├── **Thomas Ayhurst,** bap. 1615 at Whatlington, d. 1638 at Uckfield
  │ ├── **John Ayhurst,** bap. 1618 at Uckfield
  │ ├── **Joan Ayhurst,** bap. 1618 at Uckfield
  │ ├── **William Ayhurst,** bap. 1620 at Uckfield
  │ ├── **Ann Ayhurst,** bap. 1622 at Uckfield
  │ ├── **Elizabeth Ayhurst,** bap. 1624 at Uckfield, d. 1626 at Uckfield
  │ ├── **Susan Ayhurst,** b. c1627 at Uckfield, d. 1627 at Uckfield
  │ ├── **Mary Ayhurst,** bap. 1629 at Uckfield
  │ + **William Fawkner,** m. 1655 at Hawkhurst, KEN
  │ ├── **John Fawkner,** b. c1656
  │ ├── **Samuel Fawkner,** b. c1658
  │ ├── **Daniel Fawkner,** b. c1660
  │ ├── **William Fawkner,** b. c1662
  │ ├── **Mary Fawkner,** b. c1664
  │ ├── **Sarah Fawkner,** b. c1666
  │ └── **Hannah Fawkner,** b. c1668
  │ └── **Francis Ayhurst,** bap. 1632 at Uckfield, d. 1688/89 at Ewhurst
  │ + **Ann (--?--),** m. c1660

- **Thomas Ayhurst,** b. c1590
  - + **Mary (--?--),** m. c1624
    - **William Ayhurst,** bap. 1624 at Whatlington, d. 1639 at Whatlington
    - **Edward Ayhurst,** bap. 1627 at Whatlington, d. 1648 at Whatlington
    - **Ann Ayhurst,** bap. 1630 at Whatlington
    - **Elizabeth Ayhurst,** bap. 1634 at Whatlington
    - **Bridget Ayhurst,** bap. 1635 at Whatlington
    - **Mary Ayhurst,** bap. 1638 at Whatlington
- **Joan Ayhurst,** b. c1595, d. 1637 at Whatlington

Note: The above tree is highly speculative before John Ayhurst and Ann Huckstep's marriage licence in 1612. The link back to Whatlington (from Uclfield) is based on the baptism of Thomas Ayhurst there in 1615 to a John Ayhurst (mother's name not given) which fits in with the marriage and other children. The link back to Constance is guesswork based on the handful of Ayhurst baptisms and burials in the Whatlington registers.

## 40. Will of John Akehurst of Mayfield, 1693

(ESRO: PBT 2/1/2/129)
Made: 2 May 1693
Proved: 6 Oct 1693

In the name of God Amen I **John Akehurst** of Mayfeild in the County of Sussex Yeoman being very Sicke and weake but of sound and pfect mind and memory praised bee God for the same and being desirous to settle that little Estate that God in mercy hath bestowed on me here on Earth before I leave this world doe make my last Will and Testam[t] in manner and forme following (that is to say) First I Commend my soule to God that gave it me and my Body I Com[m]it to the Earth from whence it was taken to bee decently buried Item I give and bequeath unto my Five Children **Thomas Elizabeth Richard John** and **Mary Akehurst** the Sume of Five pounds apeice to bee paid unto him and every and either of them at their sev[er]all and respective age and ages of One and Twenty yeares and if either of my said Children shall happen to dye before they or either of them shall attaine to that Age That then the Legacy and Legacyes of him her or them dyeing shall be paid unto the survivors and survivor of them equally to bee divided betweene them All the rest of my goodes Chattells and psonall Estate whatsoever I give unto **Frances** my Wife whome I make sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testam[t] and whome I charge to pay all my Debts and mainteyne my Children att her owne charge untill they and every of them shall bee able to goe to service or earne their owne liveing And I Charge my said Wife that shee pay my said Children the said moneys given to them in and by this my Will In Testimony whereof to this my Will I have here unto sett my hand and seale the second day of May Anno Dni 1693 – **John Akehurst** his mke Signed sealed and published in the psence of **Stephen Fuller Thomas Hooper**

Probate: 6th October 1693 to **Francis Akehurst**, executrix.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 7 September 2018)*

### NOTES:

People
John Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Frances Akehurst, wife, executrix
Thomas Akehurst, son
Elizabeth Akehurst, daughter
Richard Akehurst, son
John Akehurst, son
Mary Akehurst, daughter
Stephen Fuller, witness
Thomas Hooper, witness

Places
Mayfield

Relevant Events
John Akehurst was buried on 11 May 1693 at Mayfield St Dunstan.
John Akehurst married Frances Fry (nee Ellis), widow, on 28 May 1678 at Mayfield.
Frances Akehurst was buried 12 Sep 1698 at Heathfield. She left a will (see below).

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**John Akehurst,** b. c1640, d. 1693 at Mayfield
+ **Frances Fry [nee Ellis],** bap. 1646 at Heathfield, m. 1678 at Mayfield, d. 1698 at Heathfield
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1679 at Mayfield, bur. 1723 at Heathfield
  + **Mary Thatcher,** m. 1702 at Wadhurst
    - **Katherine Akehurst,** bap. 1703 at Heathfield
    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1714 at Heathfield, bur. 1714 at Heathfield
    - **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1717 at Heathfield
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1681 at Mayfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1682 at Heathfield, d. 1685 at Mayfield
- **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1684 at Mayfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1685 at Mayfield
- **Mary Akehurst,** b. c1687 at Mayfield

## 41. Will of Anna Akehurst of Warbleton, 1693/94

(TNA: PROB 11/418/248)
Made: Feb 1664, updated 26 May 1668
Proved: 29 Jan 1693/94

Be it known to all whom this may concern, that I **Anna Akehurst** of Cralle in the Parish of Warbeltun in Sussex Widow in perfect memory doe make this my last Will and Testament. I bequeath my body to the earth and my soul unto God my Creator trusting in the merits of Jesus Christ that after death shall putt an end to my mortal condicion I shall live with him in Glory. Item I give unto poor Christians that are in want Six pounds to be distributed by **my daughter Anna Akehurst** out of my rents due to me. Item I give unto **my sonne John Akehurst** the half yeares rent of the Mill called Hamonds Mill which was due to me at the Middsummer last he paying out of it all that is due or will be for the repairations of that Mill and **Akehurst Farm**. Item I give unto my daughter **Anna Akehurst** all my weareing apparrell and all my papers and writings and all those bookes and gold and plate and linnen and pewter and bedds blanketts and ruggs all belonging to them and the Trunk and Chest and boxes and all that household that is mine by agreement made between me and my sonn I give unto my daughter **Anna Akehurst** and all my rent and money due to me from **William Whatman** and Edward **Braser** except Three pounds which my Will is my daughter **Anna Akehurst** shall give unto my maid **Mary Snepe** out of the said rent and if she be dwelling with me at the time of my death. If she does not dwell with me at the time of my death Then I give it to my Daughter **Anna Akehurst**. Also I Will unto **Mary Snepe** my black new stuff gowne and what old Clothes my daughter thinkes fitt to give her. Item [I] will unto my Cosen **Mr Joseph Newington** and his wife either of them a gold ring of Twenty Shillings Tenn Shillings apeece. And I Will unto **Mr Weler** and his wife either of them a ring of Tenn shillings. And I doe will unto my **Cozen Goulding** at London and his wife either of them a ring of Twenty shillings Tenn shillings apeece. And I doe appoint **Joseph Newington** and **Mr Richard Weler** my Overseers in trust to see this my Will performed. In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale February 1664 **Anna Akehurst** Witness hereunto **Benjamin Newington** The marke of **Mary Snep**.

But if it should happen That my daughter **Anna Akehurst** should dye before she marry that she have no heires of her own body Then my Will is that she hath left my goods and my Land and house should be given to **my sonn John**, her Brother. This below of my house and Land was written and the other cutt off by me in May the Twenty sixth 1668 whereunto I have sett my hand Anna Akehurst

Vicesimo nono die mensis Januarii Anno Domini (stilo Anglia) Millesimo sexcentesimo nonagesimo tertio emanavit Commissio Anna Capstock als Akehurst uxor Georgii Capstock filia naturali et legitima and unici proli superstiti et Legataria principali nominat in Testamento Anna Akehurst Vidua defuncta heritis etc Ad administrand bona jura et credita dicta defuncta iuxta tenorem et effectum Testamenti ipsius defuncta (Eo quod nullum ….. nominaverit Executorum) de bene et fideliter administrando eadem ad sancta Dei Evangelia jurat Literis Administrationis bonorum etc dicta defuncta tanquam ab intestate deceden als mense Martii Anno Domini Millesimo sexcentesimo nonagesimo tertio cuidam Johanni Akehurst filio dicta defuncta commissis et concessis ratione mortis dicti Johannis Akehurst res satis et expiratis pro ut ex Actis dicta Curia liquet

The 29th day of the month of January in the year of our Lord (English style) one thousand six hundred and ninety-three issued forth a commission to **Anna Capstock otherwise Akehurst the wife of George Capstock** the natural and legitimate daughter and **only surviving issue** and

principal legatee named in the will of Anna Akehurst widow deceased heir etc. to administer the goods and credits of the said deceased according to the intent and effect of the will of the said deceased (having named no executor) she having sworn upon the Holy Gospels well and faithfully to administer letters of administration of the goods etc of the said deceased on account of a certain **John Akehurst son of the said deceased dying intestate in the month of March in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and ninety three** commissioned and granted by reason of the death of the said John Akehurst and expired as is made clear by the acts of the said court

*(Transcription supplied by Geoff Barber July 2016. Latin translation by Claire Wickens)*

**NOTES:**

People
Anna Akehurst of Cralle, widow, testator
John Akehurst, son
Anna Akehurst, daughter
William Whatman, debtor
Edward Braser, debtor
Mary Snepe, maid (servant), witness
Joseph Newington, cousin
Mr Weler [Weller]
Mr Goulding, cousin
Benjamin Newington, witness

Places
Warbleton
Cralle
Hammonds Mill
Akehurst Farm
London

Relevant Events

Hannah [Anna] Newington of Ticehurst and John Akehurst of Hellingly, gent, obtained a marriage licence on 29 Oct 1631 (Archdeaconry of Lewes).

Ann Newington and John Akehurst married on 31 Oct 1631 at Hellingly.

John Akehurst was buried 12 Aug 1657 at Hellingly, "Mr. of Warbleton". He left a will (see below).

Anna Akehurst died either late 1693 or January 1693/94. No burial has been found but her will was probated 29 Jan 1693/94.

There are four children baptised at Hellingly to "Mr John Akehurst", mother not stated:

John baptised 6 Jan 1632/33

Samuel baptised 29 Jun 1634

Anna baptised 10 Jan 1635/36

Mary baptised 3 Dec 1637.

Samuel is not mentioned in John Akehurst's will of 1657 nor Anna Akehurst's will made in 1664. It is to be presumed that he died as a child.

Mary is mentioned in her father's will but she died just one month after her father, so is not mentioned in her mother's will.

John and Ann are mentioned in both wills but the probate for their mother Anna's will (29 January 1693/94 in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury) declares that the daughter Anna Capstock is the only surviving issue "*on account of a certain John Akehurst son of the said deceased dying intestate in the month of March in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and ninety three*". John did in fact have a will which was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury about one month after Anna's. The will was made in August 1693 which disagrees with the statement that he died in March 1693. Also, Anna Capstock was involved in legal proceedings to challenge the will of her brother ("Newington & Davies v. Capstock"), and surviving documents contain a date of 12 Sep 1693, so Anna should have been aware of this will when she applied for administration of her mother's estate, yet she claimed her brother died intestate.

It would appear that Anna lost the court case and her brother John Akehurst's will, made in August 1693, was successfully probated on 7 February 1693/94. See "Will of John Akehurst of Hellingly, 1693/94" for further details including a transcript of surviving documents from the court case.

Family Tree

See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" in Chapter 2.

## 42. Will of John Akehurst of London, 1693/94

(TNA: PROB 11/418/320)
Made: 23rd August 1693
Proved: 7th February 1693/94

In the name of God Amen I **John Akehurst** of [blank, but court documents state he was of the parish of All Hallows Staining, London] Gent being sick in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory praise and thankes be therefore given unto Almighty God for the same considering with myself the mutabillity of this life & the certainety of death although the time and hour thereof be altogeather uncertaine and to the end and intent to be the better prepared and settled in mind whensoever it shall please the Lord to take me out of this transitory life I doe therefore by Gods permission make and declare this my Testament wherein is conteyned my last will in manner and forme following (that is to say) First and principally I commend my soule into the hands of Almighty God my maker and preserver hoping and assuredly believing by and through the most precious death passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ his sonn my onely [Saviour] and Redeemer to be saved and to have free pardon remission & forgiveness of all my sins and inequities and to inherite Everlasting life in the Kingdome of Heaven amongst the Ellect resting confident thereof in the meane time until the dissolution of my body bee the blessed and conformable Spirit of God the Holy Ghost and my Body I doe commit to the Earth from whence it came in hope of a joyfull resurrection at the last day when both my body and soule shall be reunited and enter into Everlasting happiness my body to the Earth to be buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named according as they shall thinke fitt and as touching the ordering and disposing of all such temporall Estate as it hath pleased God of his infinite mercy to bless me withal I doe will give devise limit and appoint the same in manner and forme following (that is to say) First I give to my two Nephews **Samuell Mason** and **Joseph Mason** all those my Messuages Lands and Tenements called or knowne by the name of Akehurst and Henwards sciutate **lying and being in the parish of Hellenly** in the County of Sussex and also that house and Land **lying and being in Wardbilton** called or known by the name of Steel Forge scituate and being in the County of Sussex and them and their heires for ever chargeable with the payment of the Legacies hereafter by me given they my two Nephews paying to my Sister and their Mother twenty pounds which I give her as a Legacie Item I give and bequeath unto my Cozen **Thomas Newington** the summe of twenty pounds Item I give and bequeath unto **Elioner Davies** the wife of **Edward Davies** the summe of forty pounds both the two last mentioned Legacies herein by me given I will and appoint the same to be paid out of the yearely rents issues and profits of my said Messuages Lands and Tenements herein before given and my will and mind is that my Executors hereafter named shall have and enjoy all my Messuages Lands and Tenements lying and being in the parish of Hellenly in the County of Sussex together with all that house and land lying and being in Wardbilton in the County of Sussex aforesaid herein before bequeathed and given unto my Nephews **Samuell and Joseph Mason** and to their heires forever and shall have take and receave the rents issues and profits of the same Messuages Lands and Tenements until they my Executors shall be fully satisfied and paid the Legacies herein before bequeathed to them and my will & meaning is that the Legacies of twenty pounds herein before given & bequeathed to my sister shall be paid out of my Messuages Lands & Tenements herein before bequeathed unto my **Nephewes Samuell and Joseph Mason** by them within three yeares next after the decease of me Item I give and bequeath all my woods and underwoods growing and being in and upon any my Messuages Lands and Tenements herein before given unto my Executors hereafter named and I do will nominate and appoint **Thomas Newington** and **Elionar Davies** the wife of **Edward Davies** my full and sole Executors of this my last will and Testament making void and null all former and other wills by me make and doe make and declare this to be for and as my last will and Testament In Witnesse whereof I have to this my last will and Testament contained in five sheetes of paper to the fifth and last sheete have

set my hand and seale this three and twentieth day of August in the fith yeare of the reigne of their Majesties William and Mary of England etc King and Queene Anno Domini one thousand six hundred ninetie three the name of John Akehurst Signed sealed published and declared by the said **John Akehurst** to be for and as his last will and Testament in the presence of Wm Damsell Edw Sharp the marke of **Margaret Lee Rich Forbett Cler to Mr Clement Scriv**

Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum apud London coram venerabili viro Domino Thoma Pinfold Milite Legum Doctore Surrogato Venerabilis et Egregii viri Domini Richardi Raines Militis Legum etiam Doctoris Curia Prerogativa Cantuariensis Magistri Custodis sive Commissarii legitime constituti septimo die mensis Februarii Anno Domini (Stilo Anglia) millesimo sexcentesimo tertio Juramentis **Thoma Newington** et **Eleanora Davies** Executorum in dicto Testamento nominat quibus commissa fuit Administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum jurium et Creditorum dicti defuncti de bene et fideliter administrando eadem Ad Sancta Dei Evangelia Jurat lata primo sententia diffia pro valore et validate dicti Testamenti p[rese]nt[i] ex Actis Curiae liquet
*(Transcribed by Rosie Ansell, July 2016)*

[the last phrase *lata primo sententia diffia pro valore et validate dicti Testamenti p[rese]nt[i] ex Actis Curiae liquet* is noteworthy given the challenge that was made to this will by John Akehurst's sister, Anna Capstock (see later). It translates as *a definitive sentence first having been pronounced as to the worth and validity of the said present testament as is confirmed by Act of Court* confirming that the will was declared valid and that Anna Capstock lost her challenge to the will.]

**NOTES:**

People
John Akehurst, testator
Samuel Mason, nephew
Joseph Mason, nephew
Thomas Newington, cousin, executor
Eleanor Davies, the wife of Edward Davies, executor
Edward Davies
Margaret Lee, witness
Richard Forbett, clerk to Mr Clement, witness
Mr Clement, scrivener, witness

Places
Hellingly
Warbleton
Steel Forge
Henwards
Akehursts

Relevant Events
This John Akehurst has been identified as the son of John Akehurst and Anna Newington because:

1. He mentions a Thomas Newington as his cousin
2. He mentions property in Warbleton and Hellingly just as his father had (see will of John Akehurst of Warbleton, 1657).
3. He mentions Steel Forge in his will. His father was an ironmaster and was renting Steel Forge in 1649. A group called the Wealden Iron Research Group published the following:

*John Akehurst of Crawle was presumably occupying the furnace in 1649 when he was purchasing mine from Clippenham, from Lord Dacre, and also renting Steel forge (Daniel Tyssen 1872: 262; Essex RO D/DL/E22). In 1653 he was casting shot for the Office of Ordnance (TNA SP 18/39/31). The furnace and the forge both operated in 1653 but were ruined by 1664. A road leading to Cowbeech forge was mentioned in 1655 and 1693 (ESRO SAS RF3/89 and 4/2).*

(Website "Wealden Iron Research Group Database" http://www.wirgdata.org/)

4. It would appear from his will that he has no surviving children - he leaves property to he nephews but no mention of children.
5. John's sister Anna declares on her mother, Anna Newington's, probate that her brother John died without issue (see Will of Anna Akehurst of Warbleton, 1693/94).

John Akehurst is a beneficiary of the will of Benjamin Newington who was buried at Ticehurst on 22 Apr 1689:

*I give and bequeath unto my kinsman* ***Mr John Akehurst*** *of London, and lately of Crawle in Warbleton ten pounds to be paid unto him within six months next after my decease.*

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/39/27B, Familysearch.org: Film # 004427470; images 784-786)

**Newington & Davies vs Capstock**

(TNA: PROB 18/22/95)

Anna Capstock [nee Akehurst], challenged the will of her brother, John Akehurst, which appointed Thomas Newington and Eleanor Davies as executors. It seems that the challenge was based on concerns that her brother lacked the mental capacity to make a will and possibly undue influence on the part of Thomas Newington (his cousin) and Eleanor Davies (his nurse).

The following is a transcript of surving documents from the court case. Unfortunately, the only documents that survived are a list of questions to be asked of Thomas Newington and Eleanor Davies (their responses have not survived), and some statements dated 12 Sep 1693, the gist of which is that the will was authentic and is to be recognised as such. The last two pages as a whole would seem to be presenting the findings of the enquiry, that the testator did write the will.

John Akehurst's will was eventually probated on 7 Feb 1693/94. The probate at the end of the will states [translated from Latin] *a definitive sentence first having been pronounced as to the worth and validity of the said present testament as is confirmed by Act of Court* confirming that the court had declared the will valid.

**[Page 1]**

Newington et Davies con[tra] Capstock
Allo Interria
1693

*Newington and Davies against Capstock*
{*??*} {*Interrogatory*}
*1693*

**[Page 2]**

Interrogatoria ministrata et ministranda ex parte et per partem Anna Capstack (uxoris Georgii Capstack) Testibus praetensis ex parte vel p[er] partem Thomae Newington et Elianorae Davies product et producend sequuntur (vizt)

[*The interrogatories administered and being administered on behalf of and by the party of Anna Capstack (the wife of George Capstack) to the pretended witnesses produced or being produced on behalf of or by the party of Thomas Newington and Eleanor Davies as follows, that is to say*]

1 Inprimis Interrogetur [*First they are to be asked*] did you know John Akehurst [th]e dece[ase]d in this Cause, if yea, of what profession was hee; And how long did you know him before his death, of what distemper did hee dye, and how long had he bin sick before [th]e pretended making the pretended Will pleaded in this Cause and how long did he live afterwards as you know, believe or have heard, Et [*and*]

2 Item Interrogetur doe you not know believe or have heard [th]at [th]e distemper wherof the dec[ease]d dyed lay very much in his head and very much discomposed and impaired his senses and understanding for severall dayes next before and at the time of making the said pretended Will, and did not hee then or for some time before talk distractedly and extravagantly or impertinently as you know, believe or have heard and was not hee then uncapable of making a Will, and ^if^ hee talked foolishly or impertinently at [th]e time aforesaid, sett downe the particulars of such his foolish and extravagant or impertinent discourse or sayings, and when and in whose presence the same happened, Et Interrogetur ut Supra [*and this to be asked as above*]

3 Item interrogetur doe not you know, believe or have heard that [th]e said Elianor Davies was the said Dec[eas]ed's Nurse in the time of his said sicknesse, and when the said pretended Will was made, and was not the said Thomas Newington then and for some time before in Company with the said dec[eas]ed as you know or believe and doe not you know, believe or have heard that the said Nurse Davies and Thomas Newington or one of them importuned or perswaded the said Dec[eas]ed to make the said pretended Will and dictated the same or part thereof to the Writer, or directed him therein, if yea, in what particulars, Et Interrogetur ut Supra

4 Item Doe you believe in your conscience the said dec[eas]ed would have made the said pretended Will in substance as it now is, had not hee bin importuned or solicited thereto by the said Davies and Newington or one of them, or had not they or one of them directed the said deceased or the Writer thereof how to dispose of the said De[ceas]ed's Estate, And if any such Importunities were used or directions given by either of [th]e said parties for the making of the said pretended Will and the disposall of [th]e s[ai]d De[ceas]ed's Eastate sett forth the perticulers thereof according to [th]e best of your knowledge and beleife, and whether you beleive in your conscience the s[ai]d Deceased would have made any Will had hee not bin importuned thereto, but left to his liberty Et Interrogetur ut Supra

5 Item Interrogetur, when, where and by whome was [th]e said pretended Will wrote, were the Instructions which were given for [th]e making thereof taken downe in writing, if yea by whome and who gave such Instructions, and where are they ^or^ what [several words deleted] became of them, and doth the said pretended Will agree therewith (if not, wherein //

**[Page 3]**

doe they differ , and on what occasions and by whose meanes and order were such alterations made, and can you positively sweare that [th]e said pretended Will was wrote in every particuler according to the said Dec[eas]ed's order and directions (if not) in what particulers therein was it done otherwise and by whose meanes, Et Interrogetur ut supra

6 Item Interrogetur by whome and whose order was [th]e Writer of [th]e said pretended Will sent for, was not the said Dec[eas]ed when the said Writer came into his Roome to take Instructions for making the said pretended Will very much confused and discomposed in his Notions, sense and understanding and not in a fitt condition and capacity to make a Will, And did not hee at first order and direct his Lands to be given and devised to his s[ai]d Nurse Elianor Davis and named her his sole Executrix, if yea, how came hee to alter his minde and dispose of his Lands otherwise, and who first proposed to him to make the said Newington ioynt Executor with the said Davis in his said pretended Will, and doe you not believe that hee had not made the said Newington his executor nor altered the devise of his Lands from the said Davies to his Nephewes,

had not the same bin proposed to him, and hee importuned or perswaded thereto, and who proposed it to him to alter his devise of his Lands as aforesaid, and was not hee directed (and by whome) ^in [th]e disposall of all other Legacies in the said Will, and was not he interrogated, and by whome what Legacies hee would give to his Nephewes and to [th]e other Legatees before hee ordered [th]e same, et Interrogetur ut supra.

7 Item Interrogetur, did not the said Dec[eas]ed ^att [th]e time of^ his giving Instructions for the making of his said pretended Will ^after he alter[e]d his minde as in [th]e {last} preced{ent} Interr[ogator]y is menc[i]oned^ [word deleted] order all his Lands to bee devised to his Nephew Samuell only, and was hee not thereupon asked what hee would give to his Lame Cozen Joseph, and did not hee thereto reply, I will give him halfe my Land, or to that Effect, if yea, by whome was hee soe asked, and do you believe [tha]t he would have then given halfe of his Lands to his said Cozen Joseph, had not hee bin asked the aforesaid question, Et Interrogetur ut supra.

8 Item Interrogetur did [th]e Dec[ease]ed voluntarily of himselfe, order his sister Anne Capstack a Legacy of twenty pounds, or any other Legacy, or was hee not directed or advised thereto by some person (and whome) before hee ordered the same, and did you not heare the said Davies and Newington or oe of them declare soe much Et Interrogetur ut supra.

9 Item Interrogetur was the said Will audibly and distinctly read over to the said Dec[eas]ed before [th]e pretended time of his signing & publishing the same, and can you positively sweare [tha]t hee well understood the contents therof and approved of every particular therein conteined (if not) what particuler therein did hee dislike, when, where and in whose presence did [th]e subscribed Wittnesses to the said Will put their hands thereto, and did they all subscribe their names as Wittnesses thereto in [th]e sight and presence of [th]e Dec[eas]ed, And if any of them did not doe soe, sett downe their names and the place where they did soe subscribe, Et Interrogetur ut supra.

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**[Page 4]**

Die Martis Duodecimo die Septembris 1693

[*Tuesday 12th September 1693*]

Negotium Probac[i]onis per Testes ^veri^ et ultimi Testam[en]ti Johannis Akehurst nuper paro[chi]a Omnium Sanctorum Staining London Generosi defunct[i] promot_ per Thomam Newington et Eleanoram Davies Executores in eodem Testam[en]to nominat_ con[tra] Annam Capstack Uxorem Georgii Captstack Sororem dicti def[unc]ti

[*In the matter of the Probate by witnesses of the true and last will of John Akehurst formerly of the parish of All Saints*[69] *Staining London Gentleman deceased moved by Thomas Newington and Eleanor Davies executors named in the said will against Anna Capstack the wife of George Capstack sister of the said deceased*]

Tyllot {H}……. Sayer

Quo die Tyllott nomine {??} Procur[ator]is ac ut Procur[at]or l[egi]timus p[re]fatorum Thomae Newington et Eleanorae Davies ex[ecu]t[ores] verum ult_ et {o}rile_ Testam[en]tum dicti Johannis Akehurst def[unc]t[i] in quinq[ue] papiri shed_ script_ et exarat sic incipien_ *In the Name of God Amen I John Akehurst* {etc} et sic terminan_ Anno Domini 1693 ac omni meliori modo necnon ad omnem juris Effectum alligavit articulatim prout sequitur (vizt)

[*Which day Tyllot* {*named*} *Proctor and as legitimate Proctor of the aforesaid Thomas Newington and Eleanor Davies executors of the true last and ??? will of the said John Akehurst deceased written and set down in five sheets of paper beginning thus 'In the name of God amen I John Akehurst'* {*etc*} *and ending thus 'Anno Domini 1693' and by all the best means and also all* {*just purposes*} *alleged* {*and*} *articulated as follows (that is to say)*]

Imprimis That the said John Akehurst Gen[tleman] the Testator in this Cause deceased being of perfect mind and memory and having an intent and purpose to make his Will and to settle and

[69] Probably meant to be All Hallows Staining as there is no All Saints Staining.

dispose of his Estate did on or about the three and Twentieth day of August Anno Domini 1693 being the day of ^the Date of^ the Will in this Cause exhibited cause the said Will to bee put into Writeing ^and^ after it was soe wrot it was read ^over^ to or by him and by him well understoode and in Confirmation thereof he did subscribe his name att the bottome of the said Will on the Fifth Sheete thereof and Sealed the same neere to his name and likewise att the top of the said Will at both ends of the Labell that fixeth the Sheetes together and then published and declared the same to bee his last Will and Testament and att his request the Wittnesses whose names are subscribed to the said Will sett their names as Wittnesses thereto, Ac ponit cojunctim et divisem et de quolibet

2 Item That after the said Testator had soe subscribed his name to the aforesaid Will, as is aforesaid, by reason that his hand did shake and he had not wrot his name and sirname soe plain as hee usually did, he desired Richard Forckett a Wittnesse subscribed to the said Will to write his the said Tesator name and sirname att the bottome of the said Will which he soe did before the Sealeing and publishing of the said Will as aforesaid. Ac ponit ut supra

3 Item Quod pr[e]missa [deletion] omniae et sing[u]la{e} fuerunt et sunt vera, publica, {??} manifesta, pariter et famosa ac de et sup_ ei[u]sd[e]m o[mn]ibus et sing[u]l[ar]is lab{o}ravit et in p[re]senti laborat pubia_ vox ei fama petite pars uta_ proponens ius et iustitiam {Si??} et parti s{up} fieri est ministrari eum

//

**[Page 5]**

effectu, Prog rir{??}us valore et validitate dci_ Testi_ dci_ Johis Akehurst defti_ pro{???} {???}ri &c

[That all and singular the premises were and are true, public, ??? manifest, renowned…]

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 16th October 2020)*

Family Tree

See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" in Chapter 2.

## 43. Will of Frances Akehurst of Heathfield, 1698

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/43/128)
Made: 10 Sep 1698
Proved: 12 Nov 1698
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1885907; image: 931)

In the name of God amen, I **Frances Akehurst** of Heathfield in the County of Sussex, widow, being sick and weak but of a sound & perfect mind and memory praysed be God for the same, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following That is to say First I bequeath my soul into the hands of the almighty God who gave it me and my body I commit to the earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executor hereafter named. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter **Frances** the wife of **John Gunner** of Godstone in the County of Surrey yeoman, the sum of one shilling to be paid her within one month next after my decease by Executor hereafter named Item I give and bequeath unto **Richard, John, Elizabeth & Mary Akehurst** four of (?) children of my late husband **John Akehurst** the sum of one shilling a piece to be paid to them within one month next after my decease by my Executor hereafter named. All the rest of my goods ……(?) Chattels and person effects whatsoever I give unto my Son **Thomas Akehurst**, eldest son of my said late husband **John Akehurst** and I make the said **Thomas Akehurst** Executor of this my last Will & Testament And I will that he pay unto my said children **Richard, John, Elizabeth & Mary Akehurst** their …….(?) legacys of five pounds ……(?) given them in by the last Will and Testament of their father John Akehurst and I would(?) disannul & make void all former Wills and Testaments by me made. In Testimony whereof I the said **Frances Akehurst** the Testator to this my last Will and Testament written in one sheet of paper have sett my hand & seal this tenth day of September anno regni domini 1698.
Signed sealed published and declared by the said
**Frances Akehurst** the Testator in the presence of us
**Solomon Wenbourne**
**Thomas Horn**
**George Hooper**
X
The mark of Frances Akehurst

12th November 1698
Jurat Thomas Akehurst, Executor for Comissa
……(?)
Thomas Whalley Snr.
*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 22 April 2017)*

**Notes:**

People
Frances Akehurst, widow, testator
John Akehurst, deceased, late husband
Frances Gunner, daughter, wife of John Gunner
John Gunner of Godstone, Surrey, son-in-law
Thomas Akehurst, eldest son, executor
Richard Akehurst, son
John Akehurst, son
Elizabeth Akehurst, daughter
Mary Akehurst, daughter
Solomon Wenbourne, witness
Thomas Horn, witness
George Hooper, witness

Places
Heathfield
Mayfield
Waldron
Godstone, Surrey

Relevant Events
John Akehurst married Frances Fry, widow, on 28 May 1678 at Mayfield (FamilySearch).
Frances's earlier marriage was:
Alexander Fry married Frances Ellis on 29 Apr 1669 at Heathfield.
Alexander Fry buried 11 Jul 1677 at Mayfield, "husband of Frances".
Alexander Fry buried 17 Mar 1691/92 at Frant, "son of widow Frye now ye wife of John Achurst of Mayfield".

Thomas Akehurst baptised 6 Apr 1679 at Mayfield, son of John and Frances Akehurst
Elizabeth Akehurst baptised 15 Jan 1680/81 at Mayfield, daughter of John and Frances Akehurst
John Akehurst baptised 1 Oct 1682 at Heathfield, son of John and Frances Akehurst abode Mayfield. He was buried on 30 Mar 1685 at Mayfield St Dunstan (Challen BT).
Richard Akehurst baptised 6 Apr 1684 at Mayfield, son of John and Francis [sic] Akehurst.
John Akehurst baptised 20 Dec 1685 at Mayfield, son of John and Frances Akehurst.
(All from SFHG Baptisms Index)

Frances Fry baptised 26 Dec 1676 at Mayfield, daughter of Alex and Frances Fry.
Alexander Fry baptised 7 Sep 1674 at Mayfield, son of Alexander Fry.
Frances Fry of Heathfield and John Gunner of Waldron obtained a marriage licence on 23 Aug 1697 (Archdeaconry of Lewes).
Frances Fry of Heathfield married John Gunner of Waldron on 26 Aug 1697 at Bexhill.

Frances's husband John Akehurst was buried 11 May 1693 at Mayfield St Dunstan. He left a will (see below).

Family Tree

(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Frances Ellis,** bap. 1646 at Heathfield, d. 1698 at Heathfield
+ **Alexander Fry,** m. 1669 at Heathfield, d. 1677 at Mayfield
- **Alexander Fry,** bap. 1674 at Mayfield, bur. 17 Mar 1691/92 at Frant
- **Frances Fry,** bap. 1676 at Mayfield
  + **John Gunner,** m. 1697 at Bexhill

+ **John Akehurst,** b. c1640, m. 1678 at Mayfield, d. 1693 at Mayfield
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1679 at Mayfield, bur. 1723 at Heathfield
  + **Mary Thatcher,** m. 1702 at Wadhurst
    - **Katherine Akehurst,** bap. 1703 at Heathfield
    - **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1714 at Heathfield, bur. 1714 at Heathfield
    - **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1717 at Heathfield
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1681 at Mayfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1682 at Heathfield, d. 1685 at Mayfield
- **Richard Akehurst,** bap. 1684 at Mayfield
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1685 at Mayfield
- **Mary Akehurst,** b. c1687 at Mayfield

## 44. Will of John Akehurst of Hellingly, 1709

ESRO: PBT 1/1/47/231
Made: 20 Aug 1709
Proved: 24 Sep 1709
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1885948; image: 629)

In the name of God amen I **John Akeherst** of Hellingly in the County of Sussex yeoman being weake in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory praise be to God for the same doe make and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following: First of all I resign my Soul into the hands of God who gave it me hoping thro' the meritts and intercession of my Saviour Jesus Christ, to obtain remission of all my sins, ever trusting in the salvation. And my body I will be decently buried at the discretion of my Executrixes hereafter named and as for the Worldly Estate wherewith it has pleased Him to bless me, I dispose of that as follows: I will and bequeath unto my wife **Frances** the bedd and stedle with the curtains, coverlets, blanketts and all other things thereunto belonging as it now standeth in the kitchen chamber and which I usually lye on and also two pair of sheets, one pair of which of the finest sort, two pair of pillowcoats, one dozen of huckleback napkins with two towells and tablecloth of the same sort, one pottage pott, one spitt, one iron kettle, warming panne, one great iron skillett, one dripping pann, two pieces of pewter, two Firkins, a close stool and a brass skillett, all which household goods shall be delivered to my said wife within one month after my decease. And further my mind and will is that my youngest daughter **Jane** shall have, after my decease, one quarter of a years boarding without paying anything for the same. Item I give to my daughter **Joan**, one silver cupp or bowl. Also I give unto my **son in law Edward Fricker** my clock with the case. Also I give unto my grandson **William Medhurst** all my wearing apparrell. Also I give unto my two daughters **Mary** and **Jane** the two best bedds in the hall chamber with the sheets, curtains and all other things to them belonging. Item I give unto my said daughters **Mary** and **Jane** one hundred and Fifty pounds a piece to be paid within six months after my decease. The rest and residue of all my other personall estate my debts, legacies and Funeral expenses being first satisfied and discharged, I will to be equally divided between all my six daughters and alsoe my **Farme in Hellingly called Akeherst**, which I give to them to be sold and the money equally divided between them. But my mind and will is that my daughter **Katherines** share of the personall estate and said Farm shall be ordered and disposed of by my two loving Friends **Mr John Newington of Ripe** and **Mr Richard Day of Hadlow** in Mayfield and they in their judgement and conscience shall believe to be most for the good and benefit of my said daughter **Katherine** It being in my mind that my son in law **Thomas Day** shall have none of it come to his hands for disposall and my mind and will further is that what share of my personal estate shall fall to my daughter **Elizabeth** shall goe to the paying off a mortgage on severall pieces or parcells of land lying in Sutton and Seaford which her husband purchased off **Mr Hawes, Minister of Berwick** In case her husband shall settle the said lands on my said daughter **Elizabeth** his wife and her children in settlement as shall be satisfactory to my aforesaid two friends. But in case he refused soe to do, then I give them the power to manage her share in the same manner as I have empowered them to doe for the benefitt of my daughter **Katherine** and her children. Further my mind and will is that my son in law **Edward Hook** shall come to dwell in the house where I now live and shall enjoy the lease of that and of the lands thereunto belonging and all other, the upland and marsh grounds of which I have lately taken a new lease of **Mr Mawson** in consideration of the benefitt which I hope he will reap thereby he shall for every year of the lease that shall at the time of my death, be unexpired pay unto my five daughters, **Elizabeth, Mary, Ann, Katherine and Jane**, four pounds a piece yearly and shall likewise pay for mindiment chalk and appeles and for wood and Fagotts cut down what two indifferent persons shall think reasonable. I doe appoint my daughters exempting **Katherine**, to be joynt executrixes of this my last Will and Testament and my aforesaid loving Friends **Mr**

**Newington** and **Mr Day**, overseers of the same desiring them to assist in the disposing of my stock and other goods and to each of them I give a guinea and my mind and will is that if any difference happens to arise between any of the persons mentioned in this my Will concerning my estate, or the tru intent and meaning of this my Will, such difference shall be absolutely determined by the award of my neighbour **Worger of Grovebridge** and any other person or persons by him made thereof for judging of the same to whose award for the prevention of any suit in Law they shall be obliged to stand and I doe hereby revoke and disannull all former Wills by me made. In witness whereof I have to this my last Will and Testament, sett my hand and seale this 20th day of August in the year of our Lord 1709

The marke of **John Akeherst**

Signed, sealed, published and declared to be the last Will and Testament of the Testator (Those words Give them to, Estate, the money. It being my mind that my son in law Thomas Day shall have none of it come to his hands excepting Katherine. being first interlined) In the presence of the marke of **Susan Akeherst, James Bristed and Mary Armitage**.

Proved at Lewes 24 September 1709, granted to daughters **Mary** and **Jane**, with power reserved to the other daughters.

*(Transcribed by Tricia King, May 1998)*

**NOTES:**

People
John Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Frances Akehurst, wife
Jane, youngest daughter
Joan, daughter
Edward Fricker, son-in-law
William Medhurst, grandson
Elizabeth, daughter
Mary, daughter
Anne, daughter
Katherine, daughter
John Newington of Ripe, friend
Richard Day of Hadlow in Mayfield, friend
Thomas Day, son-in-law
Mr Hawes, Minister of Berwick
Edward Hook, son-in-law
Mr Lawson, landlord
Worger of Grovebridge, neighbour
Susan Akehurst, witness
James Bristed, witness
Mary Armitage, witness

Places
Hellingly
Grovebridge
Ripe
Akehurst Farm
Mayfield
Hadlow

Sutton
Seaford
Berwick
Heathfield
Herstmonceux
Rotherfield

Relevant Events

John Akehurst was buried 9 Sep 1709 at Hellingly. Abode "Grovehill"

John's first wife was probably Elizabeth. The marriage has not been found but there is a burial at Hellingly in 1697 of Elizabeth, wife of John. The baptisms of their children, mentioned in the above will, have also not been found (yet perhaps).

John's second marriage was to Frances Curteis on 24 Aug 1701 at Herstmonceux (John of Hellingly, Frances of Heathfield, widower and widow).

The daughter Elizabeth Akehurst married John Medhurst 5 June 1688 (lic. 26 May 1688) at Hellingly. Second marriage Elizabeth Medhurst and Edward Fricker at Hellingly on 22 November 1692.

The daughter Joan Akehurst married Edward Hook 3 Jan 1697/8 at Rotherfield.

The daughter Katherine Akehurst married Thomas Day of Heathfield 21 April 1702 at Hellingly.

(SFHG indexes)

John Akehurst was a beneficiary in the will of his brother Thomas Akehurst of Westham, made 6 Oct 1680 and proved 5 Jun 1682 (ESRO: PBT 1/1/36/29B). Thomas states: "And I do ordain and make Henry Coby the elder of Hailsham & my brother **John Akeherst of Hellingly** to be Executors of this my will".

Family Tree

See Tree 4. "Hailsham, Alfriston, West Firle" in Chapter 2.

## 45. Will of John Akeherst of Warbleton, 1715

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/43/128)
Made: 13 Jan 1714/15
Proved: 25 Jun 1715
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1885993; image: 796)

In the name of God amen, I **John Akeherst** of Warbleton in the County of Sussex being sick in body but of sound & perfect memory, praised be God for it, do make this my last Will and Testament as followeth.
Imprimis I comment my soul to God trusting to be saved through the merits of our Saviour and my Body to the ground to be decently buried according to the usage of the Church of England. And after my just debts and funeral expences are satisfied and discharged I give and bequeath all the rest of my worldly goods and estate unto my loving wife **Ann** and my seven children **John Sarah Mary Thomas Ann Edward and Samuel** to be equally divided between them when my youngest child shall have attained the age of 21 years.
And I do hereby constitute and ordain my said wife **Ann** and my son **John** joint Executors of this my last will & testament, desiring them to take all due care of my younger children & to do them justice. In witness of all which I have hereunto sett my hand and seal this 13th day of January 1714.
X
**John Akeherst** his mark
Signed sealed published and declared in the presence of
**Roger Callow**
**Joseph Stone**
**John Wilmshurst**

25 June 1715
[Latin – Anne Akeherst and Johannis Akeherst executors]
Thos Pierce Snr
*(Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 23 April 2017)*

Note also that a probate inventory exists (24 Feb 1715/16): ESRO: PBT 1/10/641
Value of inventory: £241 4s 6d
Names of appraisers: Daniel Butler, John Wilmshurst

**NOTES:**

People
John Akehurst, testator
Ann Akehurst, wife, executor
John Akehurst, son, executor
Sarah Akehurst, daughter
Mary Akehurst, daughter
Thomas Akehurst, son
Ann Akehurst, daughter
Edward Akehurst, son
Samuel Akehurst, son
Roger Callow, witness
Joseph Stone, witness
John Wilmhurst, witness

Places
Warbleton
Wilmington

Relevant Events
John Akehurst was buried 19 Jan 1714/15 at Warbleton St Mary.
Baptism and marriage not found.
Sarah Akehurst bap. 17 May 1691 at Wilmington, daughter of John Akehurst.
Thomas Akehurst bap. 22 Dec 1695 at Wilmington, son of John Akehurst.
Mary Akehurst bap. (not found)
Anne Akehurst born 14 Mar 1697/98 at Warbleton, daughter of John & Anne Akehurst (baptised 18 Mar 1697/98).
Edward bap. 2 Oct 1700 at Warbleton son of John Akehurst.
Elizabeth bap. 7 Jan 1702/03 at Warbleton daughter of John Akehurst.
Samuel bap. 29 Mar 1705 son of John & Ann Akehurst.
(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
See Tree 3. "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" in Chapter 2.

## 46. Will of William Akehurst of Folkington, 1741

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/56/199)
Made: 31 July 1738
Proved: 30 July 1741

In the name of God Amen I **William Akehurst** of Folkington in the county of Sussex husbandman being in good health and of sound Mind, Memory and Understanding (praise be to Almighty God for the same) considering the Frailty of my own health the Certainty of Death and the Uncertainty of the time of my Departure out of this Mortall Life Do make and ordain this my last will and Testament Hereby revoking and makeing void All former wills by me at any time heretofore made. First and principally I recomend my Soul unto Almighty God hoping and assuredly believing in and through the Meritts Death and passion of my Blessed Saviour Jesus Christ to have His pardon and forgiveness of all my Sins and Everlasting Life And as for my Body I comitt to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my executrixes hereinafter named And as for the worldly Estate wherewith God of his Great Goodness hath blessed me I give devise bequeath and dispose thereof in manner following (to witt) First Whereas I have Surrendered into the hands of the Lord of the Mannor of Folkington in the said County All that my One peice or parcell of Customary or Copyhold Land with the Appurtenances containing by Estimation one Acre more or less in the parish of Folkington aforesaid and holden of the said Mannor by the yearly rent of Nine pence and other Services late **Argles** heretofore **Akehursts** and formerly **Hollingbones** To the use and behoofe of such person and persons and for such Estate and Estates as I the said **William Akehurst** should in and by my last Will and Testament in writing give Devise Direct limitt or appoint the same and to and for no other use intent or purpose whatsoever Now I do hereby in persueance and by virtue of the said Surrender give and devise All that my said piece or parcell of Customary or Copyhold Land and premisses holden of the said Manor of Folkington with the Appurtenances unto my daughter** **Joanna Akehurst** To hold the same Land and premises and every part thereof with the Appurtenances unto my said Daughter **Joanna Akehurst** and the heirs of her body lawfully to be begotten and for want of such issue to the right heirs of me the said **William Akehurst** forever And as for All the rest and residue of my Goods Chattels Rights Creditts and personall Estate whatsoever and wheresoever (after payment of my just Debts and funeral Expenses) I give and bequeath unto my two daughters **Joanna Akehurst** and **Mary Akehurst** And I do hereby make ordain constitute and appoint my said Two daughters joynt Executrixes of this my last Will and Testament In testimony whereof I the said **William Akehurst** have to this my last will and Testament sett my hand and seal the Thirty first day of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty Eight

Signed Sealed published and Declared by the same William
Akehurst the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament

in the presence of us who likewise Subscribed our Named as
**William Akehurst**
Witnesses in the presence of the said Testator
**The Word [daughter] being first interlined
**Nic Gilbert**
**Thos Parham Junr**
**John Brook**
30th July 1741

Then was sworn **Joanna Akehurst** one of the Executrixes of this will to whom was committed the burden of the execution thereof (power being reserved of granting the like commission unto **Mary Akehurst** the other Executrix when she shall come in due form of Law to ask the same). Sworn also that the Effects of the Deceased do not amount to Twenty Pounds, by me.
Ed. Lund Snr.
*(Transcribed by Morwenna Akehurst, 30 March 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
William Akehurst, husbandman, testator
Joanna Akehurst, daughter, executrix
Mary Akehurst, daughter, executrix
Nicholas Gilbert, witness
Thomas Parham jnr, witness
John Brook, witness
Mary Newington
Katherine Kingswood
Joanna Argles of Fletching
Thomas Argles of Fletching
John Bird
Richard Browne of Little Horsted
Stephen Maynard of Hailsham

Places
Folkington
Willingdon
Hailsham
Fletching
Sandhurst
Bodiam
Little Horsted

Relevant Events
William Ackhurst buried 19 Sep 1740 at Folkington.
Joanna Akehurst bap. 1 Apr 1710 at Folkington, daughter of William and Mary.
Mary Akehurst bap. 11 Jul 1714 at Folkington, daughter of William and Catherine.
William Akehurst bap. 23 Jun 1717 at Folkington, son of William and Catherine.
William Akehurst married Mary Newington on 20 May 1707 at Folkington.
William Akehurst of Folkington married Katherine Kingswood on 5 Jul 1713 at Willingdon.
(SFHG indexes)

Other
The will of Joanna Argles of Fletching, widow, 15 April 1708, leaves property to William Akehurst.[70] It is not known how Joanna Argles fits into the family yet. In summary:

[70] Will of Joanna Argles of Fletching, widow, 15 April 1708. (ESRO: AMS993; also FamilySearch: Film no: 1885993, Image no: 911).)

Devises tenement, gardens, orchards and 9acres land in Folkington to nephew William Akehurst of Folkington and his issue, in default to grandson, Thomas Argles of Fletching.

Bequeaths to brother-in-law John Bird £10; brother-in-law Richard Browne of Little Horsted £5; to grandson Thomas Argles, the residue, making him executor

Witnesses: Ralph Beard, Margaret Page, Thomas Ellis

(Note: Mr Thomas Argels of Fletching married Joanna Byrd of Sandhurst on 23 Oct 1684 at Bodiam, Sussex).

Copy of court roll of the manor of Folkington: Admission. Date: 28 Apr 1669:[71]

Of THOMAS AKEHURST, younger son and heir of Edward Akehurst and Sara his wife, on death of said Sara afterwards the wife and relict of Edward Bushnell, to above named premises in SAS/M 197.

The above would appear to indicate the death of William's grandfather Edward's wife Sarah at c1669 after her remarriage to Edward Bushnell. The manorial records for Folkington would likely contain other useful genealogical information.

13th February 1730. William Akehurst, son of Wm. Akehurst of Folkington/Falkington, East Sussex, apprenticed to Stephen Maynard, Cordwainer, of Hailsham, East Sussex.

Family Tree

See Tree 8. "Folkington & Jevington" in Chapter 2.

[71] *Copy of court roll of the manor of Folkington: Admission*. Date: 28 Apr 1669. (ESRO: SAS/M 198)

## 47. Will of Edward Akehurst of Hooe, 1758

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/59/624)
Made: 10 Oct 1757
Proved: 30 Mar 1758
www.familysearch.org (film: 1886025; image: 18)

In the Name of God Amen I **Edward Akehurst** of the Parish of Hoo in the County of Sussex Yeoman being Weak in Body but of Sound and Perfect Mind Memmory and Understanding Praised be Almighty God for the same Do this present Tenth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Seven Make and Ordain Publish and Declare this my last Will and Testament in Writing in Manner and Form following That is to say First and Principally I Recommend my Soul to Almighty God that gave it And my Body to the Earth to receive a Decent and Christian like Burial at the Discretion of my Executors herein after Named And as Touching and concerning my Worldly Goods and Effects I Do Dispose of the Same as Followeth In the first place I give and Bequeath unto my two Grandsons **Richard Stubberfield** and **Edward Stubberfield** Sons of **Richard Stubberfield** the Younger of Bexhill each of them two pair of Sheets to be chose for them out of my Linnen by my Executors and to be kept by my Executors untill the said **Richard** and **Edward Stubberfield** shall Attain to the Age of Twenty one Years and then to be Deliver'd to them Also I Give and Bequeath unto my Daughter **Sarah** the Wife of **John Akehurst** of the Parish of Hoo my Chest of Drawers and also all my Linnen (Except before Given) that I shall have in my House or elswhere at the Time of my Decease to be Deliver'd to her by my Executors within {Six} Months after my Decease Also I give and Bequeath unto my Grandson **Thomas Akehurst** the Son of **John** and **Sarah Akehurst** of the Parish of Hoo My Colt that came of the Pony Mare Except the said Colt be Dead or Sold before my Decease But if the Said Colt be Sold before my Decease then my Will is that my said Grandson **Thomas Akehurst** shall have So much Money as the Said Colt Shall be Sold for over and above the Legacys hereinafter Given him And all the rest residue and remainder of my Said Goods Chattels and Effects of whatsoever kind or wheresoever the Same or any part thereof is or may be found I Give and bequeath unto my Executors hereinafter named But nevertheless only uppon this Trust that the Same may be Sold as Soon as Conveniently may be after my Decease for the best Purchase they can get and the Money ariseing from Such Sale I Give and Despose of as followeth First I Give and Bequeath unto **Mary Sharp** (my Maid Servant) the Sum of Ten Pounds of Lawful Money of Great Brittain to be paid her by my Executors within Six Months after my Decease Also I give and Bequeath unto my Grandson **Richard Stubberfield** the Sum of Five Shillings of Lawful Money of England to be Paid him by my Executors when he shall attain to the Age of Twenty one Years Also I give and Bequeath unto my Grandson **Edward Stubberfield** the Sum of Thirty Pounds of Good and Lawful Money of Great Brittain to be Paid him by my Executors when he shall attain to the Age of Twenty one Years Also I give and Bequeath unto the First Son of my Daughter **Sarah** that shall Live and first Attain to the Age of Twenty one Years the Sum of Five Shillings of like Lawful Money to be paid him by my Executors at the Time aforesaid And also I give and Bequeath the Sum of thirty Pounds of Lawful Money of Great Brittain to be Divided amongst all the rest of the Children of My Daughter **Sarah** Share and Share alike and to be paid them by my Executors when they Shall Severaly attain to the Age of Twenty one Years And all the rest residue and remainder of the Money ariseing by Such Sale as aforesaid and remaining in the hands of my Executors // (My Debts Legacys Funeral Expences and the Probate of this my Last Will &c) being first paid and Discharged I Give and Dispose of as followeth (that is to say) One Moiety or half part thereof to my Grandsons **Richard** and **Edward Stubberfield** aforesaid to be Equally Divided between them Share and Share alike and to be paid them by my Executors when they shall Severally Attain to the Age of Twenty one Years The other Moiety or half part to all the Children of my Daughter **Sarah** to be equally Divided amongst them Share and Share alike and to be paid them by my Executors when they shall Severaly attain to the Age of Twenty one

Years And my Will is that if it shall happen that either of my Grandsons **Richard** or **Edward Stubberfield** Shall Dye before they attain to the Age of Twenty one Years and not leaving a Child or Children Lawfully Begotten of their Bodies then such Legacy part or Share as aforesaid as would have been payable to him at the Time he should have ariv'd to the Age of Twenty one Years to be paid to the surviving Brother when he shall attain to the Age of Twenty one Years But if they have a Child or Children Lawfully Begoten then Such Child or Children to have their Deceased Fathers part And further my Will that if they shall both happen to Dye before they Attain to the Age of Twenty one Years and not have a Child or Children Lawfully Begotten then their Legacys parts or shares to go to the Children of my Daughter **Sarah** to be equally divided amongst them Share and Share alike and be paid to them by my Executors when they shall Severally Attain to the Age of Twenty one Years The Same Rules to be Used at the Discretion of my Executors amongst the Children of my Daughter **Sarah** In case any of them Should Dye as aforesaid And Further my Will is that my Executors Shall put the Money arising by the Sale of the Effects as Aforesaid Out at Interest on a good and Sufficient Security as Soon as conveniently they can (but if there shall happen any loss thereby my Executors not to Suffer that loss) And the Interest ariseing therefrom to be Aplied at the Descretion of my Executors for and towards the Maintaining and Educating of my Grand Children aforesaid as they shall think proper and convenient And further I do hereby Nominate Constitute and Apoint my Trusty Friends **John Blackman** of the Parish of Hoo and **George Hammond** of Bexhill Joynt Executors of this My last Will and Testament (Revokeing all former Wills whatsoever by me formerly made and Declareing them to be Void and of no Effect) And Allowing my said Executors all Reasonable Charges and Expence which they shall be at in and about the Same And lastly I give and Bequeat unto my Said Executors each of them One Guinea for their Trouble In Witness whereof I the Said **Edward Akehurst** have to this my last Will and Testament Wrote on two Sheets of Paper to each Sheet of Paper Sett my Hand and Seal the Day and Year first above Written

The mark of **Edward Akehurst**

Signed Sealed Publised and Declared by the Testator **Edward Akehurst** to be his last Will and Testament In the Presence of us who have Subscribed our Names as Witnesses in the Presence and at the request of the Said **Edward Akehurst** the Testator

**John Beale**
**Thomas Beale**
**{J} Ransom**

Probate: 30th March 1758 to **John Blackman** and **George Hammond**, executors.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 30 August 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People
Edward Akehurst, testator
Edward Stubberfield, grandson, son of Richard Stubberfield the younger
Richard Stubberfield, grandson, son of Richard Stubberfield the younger
Richard Stubberfield the younger
Sarah, daughter, wife of John Akehurst of Hooe
John Akehurst of Hooe
Thomas Akehurst, grandson, son of John and Sarah Akehurst
Mary Sharp, maid servant
John Blackman of Hooe, friend, joint executor
George Hammond of Bexhill, friend, joint executor
John Beale [Beal], witness

Thomas Beale [Beal], witness
{J} Ransom, witness

Places
Hooe
Mountfield
Bexhill

Relevant Events
Edward Akehurst buried 4 Feb 1758 at Hooe.
Edward Akehurst buried 2 Dec 1752 at Hooe, "son of Edward"
John Akehurst of Hooe married Sarah Akehurst of Hooe on 11 Apr 1753 at Mountfield, Sussex.

Family Tree
See Tree 3. "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" in Chapter 2.

## 48. Will of Edward Ackhurst of Southwick, 1762

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/60/464; SAS/HC 777)
Made: 23 November 1761
Proved: 29 April 1762
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886025; image no: 653)

In the name Of God Amen, I **Edward Ackhurst** of Southwick in the County of Sussex, Husbandman being weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory, blessed be almighty God for the same, do make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following, that is to say in touching my worldly estate wherewith hath pleased God to bless me in this life. I give and bequeath unto my dear wife **Ann Ackhurst** all and singular my ready money, bills and bonds, goods and chattels, household stuff and stock and all other my substance whatever in whose hands custody possession or keeping the same are in in can or maybe found and I make and appoint her as my said wife sole Executrix of this my last Will and lastly, I do hereby revoke all former and other Wills by me made declaring this to be my Last Will and Testament.
In witness, I the said **Edward Ackhurst** have herein to set my hand and seal this twenty third day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty one.

Signed sealed, published and declared by the Testator The Mark of Edward Ackhurst
**Edward Ackhurst** as and for his last Will and Testament
In the presence of us who have subscribed our names
As Witnesses hereunto in the presence and at the request
of the said Testator **David Mockford**, **John Partington**

29th April 1762 then the sworn Ann Ackhurst widow, sole Executrix in this Will named to whom was committed the burthen of the execution thereof by us. Robt Austin Snr.
*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 3 April 2017)*

### NOTES:

People
Edward Akehurst, husbandman, testator
Ann Akehurst, wife, executrix
David Mockford, witness
John Partington, witness

Places
Southwick
Kingston by Sea

Relevant Events
Edward Akehurst buried 27 Nov 1761 at Southwick St Michael.
Edward Acurs [Akehurst] married Ann Martin 24 Oct 1742 at Kingston by Sea, West Sussex.
Anne Akehurst bap. 26 Jan 1742/43 at Southwick, daughter of Edward & Anne.
Anne Akehurst buried 29 Jan 1743 at Southwick, "daughter of Edward & Anne".
It appears that the widow Anne Akehurst remarried in 1764:
Banns: June 1764 Anne Akehurst of Southwick and William Joy at Kingston by Sea.
Ann Akehurst married William Joy of Kingston by Sea on 20 Jul 1764 at Southwick.
Ann Joy buried 5 Oct 1781 at Southwick, "wife of William".

(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Edward Akehurst,** b. c1720, d. 1761 at Southwick
+ **Ann Martin,** m. 1742 at Kingston by Sea, d. 1781 at Southwick
└── **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1743 at Southwick, d. 1743 at Southwick

## 49. Will of William Akehurst of Herstmonceux, 1766

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/61/346)
Made: 20 April 1766
Died: 25 April 1766
Deposition: 7 May 1766
Proved: 12 May 1766
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886065; image: 556)

[Cover Page:]
Nuncupative Will of **Wm Akehurst** late of Herstmonceaux

This paper writing was produced and read to **Richard Gander** and **Jude his wife** at the time of their examinations vouching the same before me.
Ed Lund Snr.

[First page]
On the allegation for proving the nuncupative Will and Testament of **William Akehurst** late of Stunts Green in the Parish of Herstmonceux within the Archdeaconry of Lewes, widower deceased given in by **William Akehurst** and **Joseph Akehurst** the promovents in this cause **Richard Gander** of Stunch Green [Stunts Green] in the said Parish of Herstmonceux in the County of Sussex, husbandman aged forty seven years and upwards born at Hurstmonceux aforesaid and Jude his wife aged forty two years and upwards born at Bexhill in the said County, witnesses produced sworn and Examined depose as follows

1. To this first article of the said allegation they the said **Richard Gandore Jude his wife** jointly and severally depose and say that **William Akehurst** the Testator in this cause named deceased on Sunday the twentieth day of April last past being then in the dwelling house of them these deponents of Stunchgreen in the parish of Herstmonceux aforesaid with whom he had lived as a lodger for about three weeks before the time of his death and being sick of the sickness whereof he died and being of perfect mind memory and understanding and having a mind to settle and dispose of what he had, did make his last Will and Testament nuncupative or by word of mouth in the words or to the effect following that is to say, I desire that my kinsman **William Akehurst** and my Kinsman **Joseph Akehurst** should bury me and to share and share alike in what I leave and I give to my loving brother, five shillings if now living and I desire my kinsman **William Akehurst** son **John** should have a pair of clasps Which word or words to the like effect the said **William Akehurst** the Testator spoke with an intent that the same should stand for and be his last Will and Testament in the presence of them these deponents and desired them to take notice of it as such And that he was then of sound mind memory
[Second page]
and understanding and died the Friday following being the twenty fifth day of this instant April in the afternoon And deponents further say that the tenor of the said last Will and Testament was reduced into writing by one **Nicholas Wra..** the next day being the twenty first day of April last past and deponents subscribed or set their marks thereunto on the same day as soon as the same was wrote which writing marked the letter (A.) was produced and read to these examinants the time of their examination and that the contents thereof and the marks thereto appearing to be set are of the respective handwriting of these deponents so subscribed thereto as aforesaid.
Repeated and acknowledged the said 7th day of May 1766
(Witness heard unto these records)
Before us — The Mark of **Richard Gander** X
Ed. Lund Snr — The Mark of **Jude Gander** X

[Third page]
Written diagonally across the page so very hard to transcribe….
9 1766
….. to my sons **Joseph & William**…..I wold not (….?) of(?) nor mak with my brother…fects? now do …..? **William Akehurst** Stungreen we have agreed how and to pay all expenses to share and share the rest…**Thomas and Joseph Akehurst**.
**Joseph Akehurst** **John Akehurst** X mark
**W Akehurst** **Thos. Baker**
Witnesses

[Fourth page]
21:1766
A memorandum of the words **William Acurst** of Stunchgreen [Stunts Green] in the Parish Of Herstmonceux desesed of what he said to his kinsman **William Acurst** of Alfriston and to **Richard Gander** and **Jude his wife**, that he desired that his kinsman **William Acurst** a fore mensuned and his kinsman **Joseph Acurst** should bury him and to share and share alike in what he left and that I give to my loving brother five shilens if now living and that he desired his kinsman **William Acurstes son John** should have a pair of silver clasps.
This being the last Will and Testament of the said **William Acurst** deceased.
Witness heare unto thease words
**Richard Gander** X his mark
**Jude Gander** X har mark

12 May 1766
Because the abovenamed **William Akehurst** did not nominate any person Executor of his Will nuncupative as above written Admon of all and singular his Goods, Chattels and Credits was granted and committed with the said Will annexed to **Joseph Akehurst** one of his nephews and one of the residuary Legatees named in his said Will being first sworn well and faithfully to administer etc. And under a due caution by us.
Ed Lund Snr.
*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 3 April 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
William Akehurst, widower, testator
William Akehurst, kinsman of Alfriston
John Akehurst, son of William the kinsman
Joseph Akehurst, kinsman (nephew)
Thomas Baker, witness
Richard Gander of Stunts Green, Herstmonceux
Jude Gander, his wife

Places
Stunts Green, Herstmonceux
Herstmonceux
Bexhill
Alfriston

Relevant Events

William Akehurst buried 29 Apr 1766 at Herstmonceux.

William was baptised 24 Mar 1661 at Hailsham St Mary, son of William and Joan Akehurst.

The kinsmen William and Joseph Akehurst are children of William's brother John Akehurst who married Sarah Hart c1720. Sarah's maiden name was discovered in the will of her brother John Hart. Details from the SFHG People Index:

> John Hart of Westfield. Will 17 Jul 1735. Proved 31 Oct 1735.
> John Hart of Westfield, Sussex at present a sojourner at Eastbourne, Sussex, being sick and weak 17 July 1735
> my nephew John Hart son of my brother Joseph Hart
> my eldest sister Mary now the wife of Richard French of Chittingly, Sussex
> my youngest sister Sarah wife of John Ackhurst of Alfriston
> my said brother Joseph Hart of Westfield
> The mark X of John Hart
> Wm Gorringe, The mark of Ann Tourle, Rich Webb (All three of Eastbourne)
> 31st October 1735 then was sworn Joseph Hart sole executor of this will
> from : Archdeaconry of Lewes
> *(transcribed by Domonic Paul Motto)*

Family Tree

See Tree 4. "Hailsham, Alfriston, West Firle" in Chapter 2.

## 50. Admon of John Akehurst of Eastbourne, 1769

(ESRO: PBT/1/14/1769/28, 29)
Made: 13 Nov 1769
Died: 1 Nov 1769

John Akehurst, Schoolmaster of Eastbourne, 1769
Administration of the Goods of John Akehurst late of Eastbourne intestate deceased was granted to Ann Akehurst his Widow and Relict.

*(Transcribed by Rosie Ansell, Sep 2023)*

## NOTES:

People
John Akehurst, schoolmaster
Ann Akehurst, wife

Places
Eastbourne

Relevant Events
John Akehurst was buried 4 Nov 1769 at Eastbourne St Mary.
John Akehurst married Ann Winchester on 19 Apr 1745 at Eastbourne.
Note monumental inscription:
*To the memory / of JOHN AKEHURST / who died 1st November 1769 / aged 57 years.*

Family Tree
See Tree 3. "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" in Chapter 2.

## 51. Will of John Akehurst of Hellingly, 1783

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/64/667)
Made: 29 Sep 1777
Buried: 9 Oct 1777 at Hellingly
Proved: 23 Sep 1783
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886069; image no: 230)

In the Name of God Amen I **John Akehurst** of Hellingly in the County of Sussex Governor or Keeper of the Poor House there do make and publish my last Will and Testament in Manner following that is to say I give and bequeath all and every my Ready Monies Securities for Money Debts to me owing Goods Chattels and Estate whatsoever and every Part thereof (after Payment of such Debts as I shall justly owe at the Time of my decease my Funeral Expences and the Expences of proving this my Will) unto my two Sons **John** and **William** their Executors and Administrators Upon this special Trust and Confidence that they shall and do by and out of my said Monies and Estate from Time to Time Cloath Maintain and Provide for my two younger Children **Samuel** and **Henry** untill such Time or Times as they shall severally be capable of going into Service or otherwise providing for and maintaining themselves And when and as soon as they my said two younger Children shall be so capable of providing for and maintaining themselves then upon Trust to put and place out all such Monies as shall be remaining in the Hands of my said Trustees their Executor or Administrator at Interest on good and sufficient Security or Securitys in order to increase and improve the same untill my said two younger Children **Samuel** and **Henry** shall respectively attain their Ages of twenty one years and when and as soon as they shall respectively have attained that Age then upon Trust to distribute and divide all my said Monies and Estate between and amongst them my said two Sons **John** and **William** and all other my Children in equal Shares and Proportions Share and Share alike And I make constitute and appoint them my said Sons **John** and **William** Executors of this my Will hereby revoking and making void all other wills by me at any Time heretofore made and declaring this only to be my last Will and Testament In witness whereof I the said **John Akehurst** have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the twenty ninth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one Thousand seven Hundred and Seventy seven **J Ackhurst** Signed and Sealed by the above named **John Akehurst** and by him published and declared as and for his last Will and Testament in the Presence of Us who have hereunto subscribed our Names as Witnesses thereto in his Presence **Edward Tanner J H Sinnock**

Septr 23 1783
Then were sworn **John and William Akehurst** Executors of this Will to whom was committed the Administration of the Goods Chattels and Credits of the deceased and the burden of the execution of the same by me Wm North Surrogate
Sworn also that the Goods Chattels and Credits do not amount to six hundred Pounds
*(Transcribed by Rosie Ansell December 2016)*

### NOTES:

People
John Akehurst, Keeper of the Poor House, testator
John Akehurst, son, executor
William Akehurst, son, executor
Samuel Akehurst, son
Other children (mentioned but not named)
Henry Akehurst, son

Edward Tanner, witness
JH Sinnock, witness

Places
Hellingly

Relevant Events
John Akehurst was buried 9 Oct 1777 at Hellingly, "widower".
John Akehurst married Elizabeth Fuller on 14 Nov 1751 at Hellingly (see notes under family tree).

Family Tree
See Tree 5A. "John Akehurst and Elizabeth Fuller of Hellingly" in Chapter 2.

## 52. Will of Thomas Akehurst of Battle, 1784

(TNA: PROB 11/1117/440)
Made: 22 April 1780
Proved: 26 June 1784

This is the last Will and Testament of me **Thomas Akehurst** of Battell in the County of Sussex Yeoman made published and declared the twenty second day of April in the year of Our Lord One thousand seven hundred and Eighty in the first place I will and direct that all my just Debts Funeral Expences and Charge of proving this my Will be fully paid and discharged and subject thereto I give and bequeath all and singular my Monies Securities for Money Household Furniture Goods Chattels and Effects wherewith I shall die possessed of what nature or kind soever the same be of unto **John Hayward** of Battell aforesaid Miller whom I do appoint Sole Executor of this my Will and I do hereby revoke all former and other Wills by me at any time heretofore made and do declare this only to be my last In Witness whereof I the said **Thomas Akehurst** the Testator have to this my last Will and Testament contained in One Sheet of Paper set my hand and Seal the twenty second day of April in the year of Our Lord One thousand seven hundred and Eighty Thomas Akhurst Signed Sealed published and declare by the said **Thomas Akehurst** the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as Witnesses hereunto at the request and in the presence of the said Testator **John Tilden James Marshall**

This Will was proved at London the twenty sixth day of June in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and eighty Four before the Right Worshipful Peter Calvert Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the Oath of **John Hayward** the Sole Executor named in the said Will to whom Administration was granted of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of the deceased he having been first sworn by Commission duly to Administer

*(Transcribed by Rosie Ansell December 2016)*

### NOTES:

People
Thomas Akehurst, yeoman, testator
John Hayward, miller
John Tilden, witness
James Marshall, witness

Places
Battle

Relevant Events
Thomas Akehurst was buried 22 May 1784 at Battle, "senior"

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Thomas Akehurst,** d. 1784 at Battle

## 53. Will of Joseph Akehurst of Beddingham, 1799

(ESRO: ESRO: PBT 1/1/68/32)
Made: 21 Jan 1792
Proved: 16 Feb 1799
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886099; images: 804, 805)

This is the last Will and Testament of me **Joseph Akehurst** of Beddingham in the County of Sussex Shepherd First I give and devise to my Son **Joseph Akehurst** all that my Freehold Messuage now divided into two Tenements or Dwellings with the Gardens and Appurtenances thereunto belonging situate in the Parish of Eastdean in the said County and now in the Tenure or Occupation of **William Marchant** and **William Champion** respectively or their respective Assigns or Undertenants And also all that my Copyhold Cottage or Tenement and Garden with the Appurtenances in Alfriston in the said County now in the Occupation of **John Smith** or his Assigns or Undertenants Which said Copyhold Premises are holden of the Manor of Lullington by the yearly Rent of eight Pence and were late the Estate of **John Akehurst** my Father and are called in the Court Rolls of the said Manor the South Part of a Tenement or Cottage and Garden in the Town of Alfriston To hold the same to him my said Son **Joseph Akehurst** and his Heirs and Assigns for ever In Trust nevertheless during the Life Time of my Wife **Frances Akehurst** and to the Intent she my said Wife may during her Life have the Use and Benefit and receive the Rents and Profits of the said Freehold and Copyhold Premises Subject only to the necessary Charge of keeping the same in good Repair And from and after the Decease of my said wife I declare that the said Premises shall be to and for the Use and Benefit of my said Son **Joseph Akehurst** and his Heirs and Assigns for ever Charged and chargeable nevertheless and I do hereby charge the same with and for the Payment of an Annuity or yearly Rent Charge of three Pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain which I do hereby give to my Son **William Akehurst** for and during his natural Life And which shall commence from the Day of the Decease of my said Wife Also I give and devise to my Daughter **Frances the Wife of William Stephens** of Westfirle in the said County Yeoman All that my Copyhold Cottage or Tenement now divided into two Dwellings with the Garden and Appurtenances thereunto belonging late my Brother **William Akehursts** and before Woods situate in Alfriston aforesaid now in the Tenure or Occupation of **Richard Winch** and **William Bankin** respectively and holden of the said Manor of Lullington by the yearly Rent of one Shilling and six Pence And also all that my Copyhold Cottage or Tenement with the Ground and Appurtenances thereunto belonging late the Estate of my said Brother **William Akehurst** his Daughter **Sarah Machen** and his Son **William Akehurst** or some of them situate in Alfriston aforesaid and now in the occupation of **John Huggett** and holden of the said Manor of Lullington by the yearly Rent of four Pence by Apportionment To hold the same to her my said Daughter **Frances Stephens** and her Heirs and Assigns for ever In Trust nevertheless during the Life of my said Wife and to this Intent that she my said Wife may during her Life have the Use and Benefit and receive the Rents and Profits of the said Copyhold Premises Subject only to the necessary Charge of keeping the same in good Repair and from and after the Decease of my said wife I declare that the said Premises shall be to and for the Use and Benefit of my said Daughter **Frances Stephens** and her Heirs for ever Charged and chargeable nevertheless And I do hereby charge the same with and for the Payment of one Annuity or yearly Rent Charge of twenty shillings (**Josh Akehurst**) which I do hereby give to my said Son **William Akehurst** during his natural Life and which shall commence from the Decease of my said Wife And I direct that the said several Annuities or yearly Rents Charge hereinbefore by me given to my said Son **William Akehurst** shall from Time to Time be paid into the Hands of him my said Son and that his Receipt only shall be a good and sufficient Discharge for the same Also I give unto my said Wife such Part of my Household goods and Furniture as she shall think proper to take for her own Use And I direct my Executors hereinafter named to retain in their Hands the Sum of one Hundred Pounds of lawful Money of

Great Britain Part of my Personal Estate and to invest and place out the same at Interest in or upon some or one of the public Stocks or Funds or in or upon some other good and sufficient Security or Securities and pay the Interest Dividends and Profits thereof unto my said Wife for her natural Life and after her Decease I give the said Sum of one hundred Pounds unto my said Daughter Sarah Henty and her Executors and Administrators for her and their own Use and Benefit And I give and bequeath all the Rest and Residue of my Monies Goods Chattles and Personal Estate and Effects unto my said Sons and Daughters **Joseph Akehurst William Akehurst Sarah Henty and Frances Stephens** equally to be divided between them share and share alike And I constitute and appoint my said Son **Joseph Akehurst** and my said Daughter **Sarah Henty** joint Executors of this my Will And lastly I revoke all former Wills by me made In Testimony whereof I the said **Joseph Akehurst** the Testator have set my Hand to the first Sheet of this my last Will and Testament contained in two Sheets of Paper and my Hand and Seal to this the second and last Sheet thereof the twenty first day of January in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two **Joseph Akehurst** Signed sealed published and declared by the said **Joseph Akehurst** the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the Presence of us who in his Presence have hereunto subscribed our Names as Witnesses **J Hoper J Rye Chas Keefe**

16th February 1799 Then were Sworn **Joseph Akehurst** and **Sarah Henty** the joint Executors named in this Will To whom was committed the burthen of the execution thereof (Sworn also that the Goods Chattels and Credits of the said Deceased do not amount in Value unto Three Hundred Pounds) By Us E R Raynes Surrogate
*(Transcribed by Rosie Ansell March 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
Joseph Akehurst, shepherd, testator
Frances Akehurst, wife
Joseph Akehurst, son, executor
Sarah Henty, daughter, executor
John Akehurst, father
William Akehurst, brother
William Akehurst, son
Frances Stephens, daughter, wife of William Stephens of West Firle, yeoman
William Stephens of West Firle, yeoman
William Marchant, tenant, Eastdean
William Champion, tenant, Eastdean
John Smith, tenant, Alfriston
Richard Winch, tenant, Alfriston
William Bankin, tenant, Alfriston
Sarah Machen, brother William Akehurst's daughter
William Akehurst, brother William's son
John Huggett, tenant, Alfriston

Places
Beddingham
West Firle
Eastdean
Alfriston

Relevant Events

Joseph Akehurst was buried 26 Jan 1799 at Alfriston St Andrew.

Joseph was baptised 17 May 1724 at Alfriston, son of John  and Sarah Akurst.

Joseph is a beneficiary of the nuncupative will of William Akehurst of Herstmonceux, proved in 1766.

Family Tree

See Tree 4. "Hailsham, Alfriston, West Firle" in Chapter 2.

## 54. Will of John Aker of Hastings, 1806

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/69/710)
Made: 31 Jul 1805
Proved: 20 Mar 1806

In the name of God Amen I **John Aker** of the town and Port of Hastings in the county of Sussex Blacksmith do make publish and declare my last will and testament in manner and form following (that is to say) first I will and direct that after my just debts funeral expenses and the charges of proving and establishing will my will be fully paid and discharged by my executors hereinafter named and I do hereby charge my real and personal estate with the payment thereof accordingly and subject thereto I give and bequeath unto my dear **wife Elizabeth** all my household goods and furniture plate linen and china which shall happen to be in and about my dwelling house at the time of my decease to and for her own use absolutely and for ever Also I give an devise unto my said wife **Elizabeth** all that my message or tenement with the Blacksmith shops and premises situate in the parish of St Clement in the town of Port aforesaid and now in my own occupation To hold to her my said wife **Elizabeth** and her assigns for and during the term of her natural life without impeachment of or for any manner of waste and from and immediately after her decease I give and devise the same premises and every part thereof unto and amongst all and every such child and children as well daughters as sons as I may happen to have at the time of my decease or that shall be born within a reasonable time afterwards equally to be divided between them share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants and to their several and respective heirs and assigns absolutely and for ever And in case any or either of my said children shall happen to depart this life in my life time or in the life time of my said wife or before he she or they shall severally have attained the age of twenty one years without leaving any issue of his her or their body or bodies lawfully begotten then I give and devise the part share of him her or them so dying as aforesaid unto the survivors and survivor of my said children if more than one equally share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants, and to their survivor and respective heirs and assigns and if but one them to such one his or her heir and assigns. But in case and or either of my said children shall happen to depart this life in my life time or in the life time of my said wife or before her she or they shall severally have attained the age of twenty one years before lawful issue of his her or their body or bodies begotten then in such case I give and devise the part or share of him her or them so dying as aforesaid until such child or children if more than one equally share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants and to their several and respective heirs and assigns and if but one them to such only one his or her heirs and assigns and in case all my said children shall happen to depart this life in my life time or in the life time of my said wife without leaving any lawfully issue of his her or their body or bodies then and in such case I give and devise the said message hereditaments and premises until my said wife **Elizabeth** her heirs and assigns for ever Also I give and bequeath until my friends **Thomas Thwaites the Younger** of Hastings aforesaid sailmaker and **William Smith** of the same place carpenter all and singular my stock in trade and all other my personal estate and effects of what nature or kindsoever the same may not be hereinbefore otherwise disposed of to hold the same until the said **Thomas Thwaites** and **William Smith** and the survivor of them and the executors and administrators of such survivor upon the trusts and to and for the ends interests and purposes hereinafter mentioned and expressed of and concerning the same (that is the say) upon Trust that the said **Thomas Thwaites** and **William Smith** or the survivor of them or the executors or administrators of such survivor do and shall as soon as conveniently may be after by decease make sale and dispose of such part of my personal estate as may be liable at and for the best prices and prices which can be reasonably had or gotten for the same either by public sale or private contract at once or at several times and together or sell lots or parcels as they shall deem most prudent and the money arising by sale thereof together with my other personal estate (after payment of my

just debts and the mortgages if any) which may happen to be on my said house and premises and also my funeral and testamentary expenses to place out at interest on government or some real security in his or his own names or name and **John Thwaites** and **William Smith** or the survivor of them his executors or administrators shall and do well and truly pay the interest and dividends of such principal money until my said wife **Elizabeth** and her assigns or permit and suffer her or them to receive the same for and during the time of her natural life for and towards the maintenance of herself and the children that I may happen to have a the time of my decease or that shall be born within a reasonable time afterwards and from and immediately after the decease of my said wife **Elizabeth** upon trust to pay and divide to transfer the said principal money so to be placed out at interest onto and equally between all and every such child and children as well daughters as sons as I may happen to have at the time of my decease or that shall be born within a reasonable time afterwards when and as they shall respectively attaching the age of twenty one years to and for their own use and benefit absolutely and I hereby given and bequeath the same to them accordingly and in case of the death of my said wife before my said children respectively shall have attained the age of twenty one years I do hereby direct my said trustees and the survivor of them his executors and administrators to pay an apply the interest and dividends of each Childs share of the said principal money for and towards his or her or their maintenance education and support until such time as he she or they shall have respectively attached that age and I do hereby also expressly declare it to be my intention that in the case of any or either of my said children shall happen to depart this life before he she or they shall have attained the age of twenty one years leaving lawful issue of his other or their body or bodies begotten that my said trustees or the survivor of them or the executors and administrators of such survivor should pay and divide or transfer part or share of him her or them so dying as aforesaid unto such child or children if more than one equally share and share alike and if but one then to such only one it being my intent ion that the issue of any deceased child should enjoy the full benefit by this my will intended for the father or mother but in case any or either of my said children shall depart this life in my life time or in the life time of my said wife or before she or they shall severally have attained the age of twenty one years and without leaving any issue of his her or their body or bodies lawfully begotten then and in such case I do hereby direct my said trustee and the survivor of them and the executors or administrators of such survivor to pay and divide or transfer the part or share of him her or them so dying as last aforesaid unto the survivors and survivor of my said children if more than one equally share and share alike upon their severally attaining their respective ages of twenty one yeas as aforesaid and if but one should survive then to such only one upon his or her attaining that age and in case all my said children shall happen to die in the life time of my said wife without leaving any lawful issue of his her or their body or bodies then and in such case I do hereby direct my said trustees and the survivor of them and the executors and administrators of such survivor to pay or transfer the whole of the said principal money unto my said wife Elizabeth for her own use and benefit absolutely and for ever and I do hereby give and bequeath the same to her accordingly provided always and I do hereby further declare my will and meaning to be that my said trustees and the survivor of them his executors and administrators shall be charged and chargeable only for such and so much money and they and each of them shall respectively actually receive by virtue of or under the trusts of this my will and that one of them shall not be answerable or accountable to the other of them or that the acts deeds or receipts of the other of them but each for his own acts and deeds only nor for the insufficiency or deficiency of any security or securities or rise or fall of any stocks or xxxx in or upon which such principal money or any part thereof shall or may be placed out or invested nor for any other loss misfortune or damage which may happen in the execution of any of the trusts of this my will or in relation thereto except the same shall happen by or through their or either of their own wilful defaults respectively and also that they my said trustees and the survivor of them and their heirs executors and administrators of such survivor shall and lawfully may with and out of the money

which shall come to their hands by virtue of or under the trust to his my will retain to and reimburse himself and themselves respectively all such loss costs charges damages and expenses which they or either or them shall or may suffer sustain expend disburse or be put unto by reason or means or on account of the trusts by this my will in them reposed or in about touching concerning the management or execution thereof and I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint the said **Thomas Thwaites** and **William Smith** executors or this my last will and testament and together and along with my said wife guardian of my said children during their respective minorities and I do give and bequeath unto each of them my said trustees a mourning ring as a small acknowledgment for the trouble they may have in the execution of the trusts of this my will over and above and exclusive of their reasonable charges and expenses and lastly I do hereby revoke all former and other wills by me at any time therefore made and do declare this to be my will and testament In witness whereof I the said **John Aker** the testator have to this my last will and testament contained in three sheets of paper set my hand to the two first sheets to this third during the last sheet thereof my hand and seal the thirty first day of July in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and five
Signed sealed and declared by the said
**John Aker** the testator as and for his last will and **John Aker**
Testament in the presence of us who in his presence
At his request and in the presence of each other have
Hereunto subscribed our names as witness
**George Sergeant**
**Wm Bishop**
**Wm Thorpe**

Proved at Lewes 20 March 1806.
Under £600
*(Transcribed by Kathryn Ellis 23/2/2011)*

**NOTES:**

People
John Aker, blacksmith of Hastings, testator
Elizabeth Aker, wife
Thomas Thwaites the younger, sailmaker, executor
William Smith, carpenter, executor

Places
Hastings

Relevant Events
John Aker buried 10 Sep 1805 at Hastings All Saints.
Ann Crowhurst Aker baptised 24 Aug 1799 at Hastings St Clement, daughter of John and Elizabeth Aker.
Elizabeth Aker, widow of St Clement married Benjamin Bingham, widower of St Mary in Castle, on 5 Apr 1812 at Hastings All Saints.
Ann Crowhurst Aker married Henry Nicholas Stone on 3 Feb 1820 at Hastings St Clement. (SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**John Aker,** d. 1805 at Hastings
+**Elizabeth (--?--),** m. c1795
└── **Ann Crowhurst Aker,** bap. 1799 at Hastings, d. 1881 at Hastings, pr. 1881
  +**Henry Nicholas Stone,** bap. 1799 at Tun. Wells, KEN, m. 1820 at Hastings, d. 1836 at Hastings
  ├── **Charles Morley Stone,** bap. 1821 at Hastings, d. 1826 at Hastings
  ├── **Edward Godson Stone,** bap. 1824 at Hastings, d. 1913 at Hastings, pr. 1913
  ├── **Emily Palmer Stone,** bap. 1827 at Hastings, d. 1925 at LND
  ├── **William John Stone,** bap. 1831 at Hastings
  ├── **Robert Stone,** bap. 1832 at Hastings
  └── **Ann Sophia Stone,** bap. 1835 at Hastings, d. 1836 at Hastings

## 55. Will of Joseph Akehurst of Beddingham, 1810

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/70/692; ESRO: SAS/LEW 4)
Made: 22 Nov 1809
Proved: 3 Feb 1810

This is the last will and testament of me **Joseph Akehurst** of Westfirle in the county of Sussex yeoman. First I give unto my wife **Elizabeth Akehurst** all and every my assuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments and real estate both freehold and copyhold, to hold the same to her my said wife and her assigns for her natural life. And after her decease I give my freehold house with the appurtenances in the Cliff near Lewes in the said county unto **Robert Ellman** of Brightelmston in the said county and his heirs, charged with the payment of eighty pounds sterling apiece to his brother **Thomas Ellman** and his sister **Mary Verrall** or their respective executors or administrators within six months next after the death of my said wife. Also I give (after the decease of my said wife) my copyhold, assuage and garden with the appurtenances situate in Alfriston in the said county unto **Richard Ford Akehurst** of Beddingham in the said county and his heirs absolutely and I direct my executors to stand possessed of my personal estate in trust to permit my said wife to receive the interest and unusual produce thereof for her natural life and after her decease in trust to pay to **Mary** the wife of **John Fuller** of Westfirle aforesaid carrier order executors or administrators one hundred pounds sterling and upon further trust to pay all the residue of my personal estate unto my sister **Frances** the wife of **William Stevens** of Westfirle aforesaid yeoman and her executors and administrators and I appoint the said **Robert Ellman** and **John Stevens** of Westfirle aforesaid yeoman joint executors in trust of this my will In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty second day of Novemenber one thousand eight hundred and nine.

Jos Akehurst

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said **Joseph Akehurst** the testator as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses.

**George Hoper Abrm Liney Chas Hollebone**

3rd February 1810 then was sworn **Robert Ellman** and **John Stevens** the joint executors in this will named to whom was committed the burthen of the execution thereof sworn also that the goods, chattels and credits of the said deceased do not amount in value unto one thousand pounds.

By me E. R. Raynes

*(Transcribed by Domonic Motto)*

## NOTES:

People

Joseph Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Elizabeth Akehurst, his wife
Robert Ellman of Brighton
Thomas Ellman, brother to Robert Ellman
Mary Verrall, sister to Robert Ellman
Richard Ford Akehurst
John Fuller
Mary Fuller, his wife
William Stevens
Frances Stevens, his wife
George Hooper, witness

Abraham Liney, witness
Charles Hollebone, witness

Places
Beddingham
West Firle
Alfriston
Lewes
Brighton
Arlington
Cinderford
Cralle
Cowbeech

Relevant Events

Joseph Akehurst buried 24 Dec 1809 at West Firle.

Joseph Akehurst bap. 9 Apr 1809 at Beddingham, daughter of Richard and Mary. Is this Richard the Richard Ford Akehurst mentioned in the will?

The SFHG baptism index has:

Richard Senderford [Sinderford?] baseborn son of (?) Akehurst baptised 5 Apr 1772 at Arlington St Pancras.

Note that Cinderford is a place name near the hamlet of Cowbeech, once a site of Wealden iron production and located in the parish of Herstmonceux (although very close to Hellingly and Hailsham). Cowbeech Forge was also known as Cralle Forge and was operated by Mr. John Akehurst c1650s. Cralle was the residence of John Akehurst's wife, Anna Newington.

In the 1851 census there are two Akehurst families living at Cinderford. The main feature surving now is Cinderford Lane which runs between Cowbeech Road and Grove Hill Road.

Joseph Akehurst's second wife, Elizabeth Ellman, was the widow of John Ellman who was buried on 4 Aug 1787 at West Firle St Peter. They had three children: Robert (1778), Mary (c1780) and Thomas (1784). Their marriage has not been found, so Elizabeth's maiden name is unknow for now. John Ellman's mother was Mary Wisdom, presumed sister of Robert Wisdom mentioned below.

Other

Joseph Akehurst is mentioned in the following document:

Title: Probate of will of 25 Sep 1798 of Robert Wisdom of St Thomas at Cliffe, sieve maker
Date: 6 Jun 1800.[72]
Description: to Mary Cornwell, niece of late wife, £100; to John Smith Cornwell, son of Robert Cornwell of Mayfield, £20; to each of children of William and Ann Packham of Barcombe, £5; to nephew James Wisdom of Brighton, 1s; to each of children of said James Wisdom, £5; to niece Elizabeth wisdom, £50; to Mary, daughter of John and Mary Butcher, £5; to **Joseph Akehurst of Firle** and George Grantham of Lewes St Michael, his house and garden in St Thomas at Cliffe, in trust to sell for benefit of **Elizabeth Akehurst, wife of Joseph Akehurst**

Family Tree

See Tree 4. "Hailsham, Alfriston, West Firle" in Chapter 2.

[72] Probate of will of 25 Sep 1798 of Robert Wisdom of St Thomas at Cliffe, sieve maker.
Date: 6 Jun 1800. (ESRO: SAS/LEW 2)

## 56. Will of Henry Akehurst of Lewes, 1818

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/73/104)
Made: 29 May 1816
Proved: 25 March 1818

This is the last Will and Testament of me **Henry Akehurst** of Lewes in the County of Sussex, servant to Mrs. Mason. First I order and direct that all my just debts, funeral expenses and the charges of proving and executing this my Will, be paid and discharged as soon as conveniently may be after my decease by my Executors hereinafter named. Also I give and beseech to each of my brothers, **John Akehurst** of Hellingly, my brother **William Akehurst** of Mayfield and my brother **Samuel Akehurst** of Pevensey, all in the said county, one hundred pounds a piece. Also I give and bequeath to each of the wives of my said brothers **John and Samuel Akehurst**, the sum of nineteen guineas a piece and to my sister in law **Hannah**, the widow of my late brother **Thomas Akehurst** deceased, the sum of nineteen guineas. Also I give and bequeath unto each of the children of my said late brother **Thomas**, that is to say **Henry Akehurst, John Akehurst, James Akehurst, Stephen Akehurst, Elizabeth Akehurst and Harriet Akehurst**, the sum of ten pounds a piece; and to each of the children of my said brother **Samuel Akehurst** that may be living at the time of my decease, the sum of ten pounds a piece, except his daughter **Elizabeth** to whom I give the sum of fifteen pounds. Also I give to each of the children of my said brother **William** that may be living at the time of my decease, the sum of ten pounds a piece. Also I give to each of my God children viz **John, son of Thomas Holman** of Hellingly aforesaid and **John, son of George Bayley** of Lewes, the sum of five pounds a piece. And to my fellow servant, **Ann Tingley**, five pounds if she shall be living in the service of **Mrs Mason** at the time of my decease, otherwise not. All which said legacies I direct shall be paid within twelve months next after my decease. Also I give unto my respected **Mistress, Mrs Sarah Mason of Lewes** aforesaid, a mourning ring which I request her to accept as a mark of my respect for her. Also I give unto my brother **John Akehurst**, my bureau and bookcase and to my nephew **John Akehurst**, son of my late brother Thomas, my watch with its chain and appurtenances. Also I give to the poor people of the Parish of Hellingly, aforesaid five pounds to be distributed amongst such of them and in such portion as my Executors shall think proper on Saint Thomas' day next after my decease. And I direct that my remains shall be buried in a grave in the burying ground of the said Church of Hellingly and that a decent monumental inscription shall be placed over the same by my Executors. All the rest residue and remainder of my goods, chattels and personal estate after payment of legacies and paying expenses of executing this my Will, I give and bequeath to each of my brothers as shall be living at the time of my decease to be equally divided between them, share and share alike. And lastly I make constitute and appoint my said brother **John Akehurst** and my friend **John Pitcher** of Hellingly, Executors of this my last Will and Testament to each of whom I give the sum of five pounds as a compensation for their trouble.

In witness whereof I the said Henry Akehurst to this my last Will and Testament have subscribed my name and affixed my seal this twenty ninth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen.

**Henry Akehurst**

Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the within named **Henry Akehurst** the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses

**J (or T?) Woollgar, W Woollgar** , Lewes

25th March 1818 Then were sworn John Akehurst and John Pitcher the Executors named in the said Will To whom was committed the burdhen(?) of the execution thereof Sworn also that the Goods, Chattels and Credits of the said Deceased do not amount in value unto Eight hundred pounds.

*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 30 March 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
Henry Akehurst, servant, testator
Mrs Sarah Mason of Lewes, employer (mistress)
John Akehurst of Hellingly, brother, executor
William Akehurst of Mayfield, brother
Samuel Akehurst of Pevensey, brother
Thomas Akehurst (deceased) , brother
Hannah Akehurst, sister in law, widow of Thomas Akehurst
The children of Thomas Akehurst:
Henry Akehurst,
John Akehurst,
James Akehurst,
Stephen Akehurst,
Elizabeth Akehurst and
Harriet Akehurst
Elizabeth Akehurst, daughter of Samuel Akehurst
John Holman, godchild, son of Thomas Holman of Hellingly
John Bayley, godson, son of George Bayley of Lewes
Ann Tingley, fellow servant
John Pitcher of Hellingly, friend, executor
J Woolgar, witness
W Woolgar, witness

Places
Lewes
Hellingly
Pevensey
Mayfield

Relevant Events
Henry Akehurst was buried 16 Mar 1818 at Hellingly, "age 48 years of Lewes St Michael".
Henry was baptised 1 Jul 1769 at Hellingly, son of John and Elizabeth Akehurst.

Family Tree
See Tree 5A. "John Akehurst and Elizabeth Fuller of Hellingly" in Chapter 2.

## 57. Will of John Akehurst of Hellingly, 1832

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/77/618)
Made: 22 Nov 1827
Proved: 14 Feb 1832
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886183; images: 106-108)

[page 1]
This is the last Will and Testament of me **John Akehurst** of Hellingly in the County of Sussex Yeoman (that is to say) I give and bequeath unto my Wife **Lucy Akehurst** the legacy or sum of twenty pounds to be paid to her within three calendar months next after my decease to and for her own use and benefit Also I give and bequeath unto my said wife **Lucy Akehurst** my Chest of Drawers my best Bed and the Bedstead Hanging Furniture Bolster and Pillows thereto belonging or therewith used and such two pair of Sheets and three Blanketts as she shall make choice of to and for her own use and benefit and to be delivered to her forthwith after my decease And all the Rest residue and remainder of my Goods Chattels Effects Monies Securities for Money Rights Credits and Personal Estate whatsoever and wheresoever not by me herein before otherwise disposed of and after payment of all such debts as I shall justly owe at the time of my decease my funeral expences and the costs and charges of proving and executing this my will I give and bequeath unto **John Pitcher of Westham** in the said County Yeoman Upon the several Trusts nevertheless hereinafter declared of and concerning the same (that is to say) Upon Trust that he the said **John Pitcher** his executors or administrators shall and do as soon as conveniently may be after my decease absolutely sell and dispose of such part or parts of the said residuum of my Personal Estate as shall be of a saleable nature for the best price or prices that can be had or obtained for the same either by Public Auction or Private Contract and either together or in Lots or Parcels as he the said John Pitcher or his Executors or Administrators shall in his or their discretion think proper and the monies arising from the sale or sales thereof together with such debts or monies as shall form part of the said residuum of my Personal Estate put and place out at interest on some good and sufficient Government or Real Security or Securities in the name or names of the said **John Pitcher** his executors or administrators and pay the interest or dividends thereof unto my wife **Lucy Akehurst** from time to time during her natural life when and as the same shall accrue and be received to and for her own use and benefit And in case such interest or dividends shall not in the discretion of the said John Pitcher his executers or administrators be sufficient for the support and maintenance of my said Wife **Lucy Akehurst** Then upon Trust that he the said John Pitcher or his executors or administrators shall and do from time to time during the natural life of my said Wife **Lucy Akehurst** pay unto her such part or parts and so much of the said principal monies so directed to be put
Signed John Akehurst
[page 2]
and placed out at interest as aforesaid as he the said **John Pitcher** his Executors or Administrators shall in his or their discretion think proper for the better support and maintenance of my said Wife **Lucy Akehurst** And upon the decease of my said Wife **Lucy Akehurst** Upon Trust that he the said **John Pitcher** his Executors or Administrators shall and do pay and divide the said Trust Principal Monies so directed to be put and placed out at interest as aforesaid or such part thereof (if any) as shall then remain unapplied for the better support and maintenance of my said Wife as aforesaid in manner following that is to say One third part thereof to pay unto such of the children of my late Brother **William Akehurst** deceased as shall be then living in equal shares and proportions to and for their several and respective use and uses One other third part thereof to pay unto such of the children of my late Brother **Thomas Akehurst** deceased as shall be then living in equal shares and proportions to and for their several and respective use and uses and the remaining or other third part thereof to pay unto such of the children of my late Brother **Samuel Akehurst** deceased as shall be then living in equal shares

and proportions to and for their several and respective use and uses And I nominate constitute and appoint the said **John Pitcher** sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament And my will is and I do hereby expressly declare and direct that he my said Executor or his Executors or Administrators shall not be charged or chargeable with or accountable for any more of my monies or estate that he or they shall actually receive or shall come to his or their hands by virtue of this my will nor with or for any loss which may happen of such monies or estate or any part thereof so as such loss do not happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect And further that is shall and may be lawful to and for my said Executor and his Executors or Administrators to retain and reimburse himself and themselves from and out of my said monies and estate all such Loss Costs Charges Damages and Expences as he or they shall sustain bear pay expend or be put unto in the execution of this my Will together with the sum of Five Pounds for his or their loss of time and trouble with the execution
Signed **John Akehurst**
[page 3]
of this my Will And lastly I hereby revoke all former Wills by me made and declare this only to be my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I the said **John Akehurst** have to the two first sheets of this my Will contained in three sheets of paper set my hand and to this the third and last sheet thereof my hand and seal this twenty second day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty seven
Signed **John Akehurst** + seal
Signed sealed published and
Declared by the above named
John Akehurst as and for his
last Will and Testament in
the presence of us who have
hereunder subscribed our
names as Witness thereto
Samuel Sinnock
Sophia Sinnock

On the fourteenth day of February 1832 was sworn **John Pitcher** the executor in this will named To whom was committed the execution thereof And the said John Pitcher was also sworn that the Goods Chattels and Credits of the Testator were under the value of two hundred pounds
Under Caution by us
*(Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 28 April 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
John Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Lucy Akehurst, wife
John Pitcher of Westham, yeoman, executor
William Akehurst, brother (deceased)
Thomas Akehurst, brother (deceased)
Samuel Akehurst, brother (deceased)
Samuel Sinnock, witness
Sophia Sinnock, witness

Places
Hellingly
Westham
Chiddingly

Relevant Events

John Akehurst was buried 17 Dec 1831 at Hellingly, "79 years".

John Akehurst married Lucy Rippington, widow, on 6 Apr 1779 at Chiddingly.

The marriage banns in March 1779 at Chiddingly state: "John Akehurst and Lucy Rippington, the former of Hellingly, the latter of this parish".

It appears that they had no children.

John Akehurst's father was John Akehurst (1720-1777) and was keeper of the poor house at Hellingly. He also left a will (see below). (SFHG indexes)

Family Tree

See Tree 5A. "John Akehurst and Elizabeth Fuller of Hellingly" in Chapter 2.

## 58. Will of Edward Akehurst of East Grinstead, 1841

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/80/741)
Made: 13 Dec 1825
Died: 7 Oct 1832
Proved: 17 May 1841
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886195; images: 237-238)

I **Edward Akehurst** in the name of God Amen of the Parish of East Grinstead in the County of Sussex Husbandman, being in sound sense and memory do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following, First I direct my Executrix hereinafter named to pay within six months after my decease all my just debts and funeral expenses and further my will and meaning is that my beloved wife **Elizabeth Akehurst** whom I appoint sole Executrix of this my will, shall as soon as conveniently may be sell or cause to be sold by auction or otherwise, all my messuage, tenements, buildings, lands etc which I now occupy, copyhold of inheritance, situate at Ashhurst Common in the Parish of East Grinsted for as much money as can be obtained for the same and from the sum so arising my Executrix shall pay or cause to be paid, all principal and interest due to the Mortgagee of my Estate and the remainder of such sum to be raised by the sale of my copyhold estate. I give and bequeath to my said wife **Elizabeth** for her support and maintenance during her natural life and necessary to be solely expended for her support together with all my household furniture, goods and chattels to her use and benefit, And further I give and bequeath to my wife **Elizabeth**, during her natural life, all that my copyhold messuage known by the name of the Stable House for a residence during her natural life and after the decease of **Elizabeth** my wife, I give and bequeath my said cottage called the Stable House, lying and being in the Parish of East Grinsted aforesaid to my son **Samuel Akehurst** now of the Parish of Worth to him and his heirs and assigns forever, to have and to hold the same. And my further will and meaning is that after the death of **Elizabeth** my wife, that all sum or sums of money which shall remain over and above the sum necessary for her support together with all the household goods (if any remaining) shall be divided equally as follows. One equal part thereof to my son **Edward Akehurst** and one equal part to my son **Stephen Akehurst** and one equal part to my son **William Akehurst** and also one equal part to my daughter **Ann French** now of Hackney and one equal part to my daughter **Mary Mitchell**, and to my daughter **Sarah Barker** I bequeath one shilling to be paid to her by my Executrix on demand. And I do hereby revoke, annull and make void any former Wills and Codicils by me at any time heretofore made And declare this only as my last Will and Testament.
In Witness whereof I have hereunto placed my hand and seal this thirteenth day of December 1825.

**Ed Akehurst**

Signed sealed published and declared by the said Testator as his last Will and Testament. In the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses and in the presence of each other at his request

**James Batchelor**
**George Briggs**
**Ann Browning**

Passed the Seal 17th May 1841
On the 13th day of May 1841 was sworn **Elizabeth Akehurst** the sole Executrix in this Will named to whom was committed the Execution thereof.
And the said **Elizabeth Akehurst** was at the same time sworn that the Goods Chattels and Credits of the Deceased were under the value of twenty pounds.

Under Caution
By us

Testator died 7th October 1832.
Proved before the **Revd Christopher Nevill** of East Grinsted Surrogate etc
The last Will and Testament of **Edward Akehurst** of Ashhurst Wood, East Grinsted
Dated
*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
Edward Akehurst, husbandman, testator
Elizabeth Akehurst, wife, executrix
Samuel Akehurst of Worth, son
Edward Akehurst, son
Stephen Akehurst, son
William Akehurst, son
Ann French, daughter
Mary Mitchell, daughter
Sarah Barker, daughter
James Batchelor, witness
George Briggs, witness
Ann Browning, witness
Reverend Christopher Nevill of East Grinstead

Places
East Grinstead
Worth
Hackney

Relevant Events
Edward Akehurst was buried 10 Oct 1832 at East Grinstead St Swithun, "84 years" (i.e. born c1748).
A possibility for Edward's baptism is: Edward baptised 14 Oct 1755 at Wartling son of Samuel and Anne Akehurst. It is the only possibility in the SFHG indexes and Edward's first son and first daughter were named Samuel and Anne.
Edward Akehurst married Elizabeth Ann Gibb on 5 Mar 1817 at East Grinstead.
Edward Akehurst baptised 6 Oct 1793 at East Grinstead, son of Edward and Elizabeth Akehurst.
Mary Akehurst married Michael Mitchell on 1 Feb 1823 at East Grinstead.
(SFHG indexes)

Other

The following document refers to the testator's family:

**Removal order to Burwash.** Date: 19 Dec 1791.[73]

Description: Edward Akehurst, his wife Elizabeth and children Ann, Sarah and Samuel from East Grinstead

Family Tree

(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Samuel Akehurst,** b. c1725
+ **Ann (--?--),** b. c1730, m. c1750
- **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1755 at Wartling, d. 1832 at East Grinstead
  - + **Elizabeth (--?--),** b. c1761, m. c1785, d. 1847 at East Grinstead
    - **Ann Akehurst,** bap. 1787 at East Grinstead
      - +**(--?--) French,** m. c1810
    - **Sarah Akehurst,** bap. 1789 at East Grinstead
      - +**(--?--) Barker,** m. c1815
    - **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1791 at East Grinstead
    - **Edward Akehurst,** bap. 1793 at East Grinstead
      - + **Elizabeth Ann Gibb,** m. 1817 at East Grinstead, d. c1836 at East Grinstead
      - + **Mary Tasker,** bap. 1810 at Hartfield, m. 1836 at East Grinstead
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1796 at East Grinstead
    - **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1799 at East Grinstead
    - **William Akehurst,** b. c1801 at East Grinstead
    - **Mary Akehurst,** b. c1803 at East Grinstead
      - + **Michael Mitchell,** b. c1797 at East Grinstead, m. 1823 at East Grinstead
- **Anne Akehurst,** bap. 1756 at Wartling
- **Lucy Akehurst,** bap. 1763 at Heathfield
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1771 at Heathfield
- **Elizabeth Akehurst,** bap. 1773 at Heathfield

[73] Removal order to Burwash. Date: 19 Dec 1791. (ESRO: P 284/14/19)

## 59. Will of John Akehurst of Hastings, 1844

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/81/681)
Made: 22 April 1839
Died: 2 Jun 1844
Proved: 9 Dec 1844
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886196; images: 520-522)

This is the last Will and Testament of me **John Akehurst** in the County of Sussex, Bricklayer. First I constitute and appoint my dear wife **Elizabeth Akehurst** and my friend **Charles Booth of Hastings** aforesaid Carpenter Executrix and Executor of this my Will and I direct them to pay and discharge all my just debts and funeral and testamentary expenses as soon as conveniently may be after my decease. I give and devise all my messuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments as well as freehold and copyhold and all of my other real estate whatsoever and wheresoever unto and to the use of the said **Charles Booth** his heirs and assigns forever upon trust during the life of my said wife **Elizabeth Akehurst** that he the said **Charles Booth** his heirs or assigns do or shall permit and suffer my said wife **Elizabeth** or her assigns to receive and take the rents issues and profits thereon to and for their own use and benefit and from and after the decease of my said wife in Trust for my said son **Thomas Akehurst** his heirs and assigns forever Provided always and I do hereby declare that in case it shall be considered advantageous for my Estate to sell and dispose of all or any part of my said real estate during the lifetime of my said wife, it shall be lawful for the said **Charles Booth** his heirs and assigns and I do hereby authorise and direct him or them at his or their discretion with the consent of my said wife during the minority of my said son after he shall have attained the age of twenty one years with the consent of my said wife and son to sell and dispose of all or any part of my messuages, lands tenements, hereditaments and real estate together or in parcels and either by public auction or private contract for such price or prices as can be reasonably obtained for the same and to pay apply and dispose of the monies from such sale or sales arising for the same manner and for the same purposes as I have hereinafter expressed and directed of and concerning the residue of my personal estate And I do hereby

Declare that the receipt or receipts of my Trustee or Trustees for the time being shall be a good and sufficient discharge to the purchaser or respective purchasers of my said hereditaments and real estate and any part thereof respectively for his her or their purchase money or respective purchase monies or for so much thereof as in any such receipt of receipts shall be expressed to be received And that such Purchaser or Purchasers shall not afterwards be answerable or accountable for the loss misapplication or nonapplication

Thereof and after subject to

**John Akehurst**

Page 2 (p521)

The payment of my just debts and funeral and testamentary expenses. I give and bequeath all the rest and residue of my monies, securities for money, goods, chattels and personal estate whatsoever unto the said **Charles Booth** his Executors Administrators and Assigns upon trust to pay to or permit and suffer my said wife **Elizabeth** to receive and take the interest, dividends and proceeds thereof for her own use and benefit for and during the term of her natural life And from and after her decease Upon Trust to pay and transfer the said residue of my personal estate or the stocks, funds or securities in or upon which the same shall be invested unto my said son **Thomas Akehurst** for his absolute use and benefit or in case the said **Thomas Akehurst** shall be then dead and left issue then living Upon Further Trust to pay distribute and divide the same unto and equally between all and every child and children lawfully to be begotten by my said son who shall be then living and the issue of any such child or children who shall be then dead and have left issue, in equal shares and proportions as and when suck child or children and issue respectively shall attain the age of twenty one years but the issue of any such child or respective children then dead shall take equally amongst them, if more than one the share or shares to

which his her or their parent or respective parents would have been entitled if living and no more Provided Always that in case my said son **Thomas Akehurst** shall die during the lifetime of my said wife and leave no lawful children or issue who shall be living at the time of her decease then I authorise and direct my said Trustee or Trustees for the time being to sell and dispose of my said real estate in manner hereinbefore directed or such part thereof shall not have been previously sold in pursuance of the power hereinbefore in that half contained and to stand professed of the monies thereof arising and also of the residue of my personal estate Upon Trust to pay the interest, dividends and annual proceeds thereof unto my brother **Thomas Akehurst** during his natural life And from and after the decease of my brother **Thomas Akehurst** Upon Trust to pay distribute and divide the said monies and residue of my personal estate unto and equally between all and every child or children of my said brother **Thomas Akehurst** lawfully begotten and to be begotten who shall be living at the time of his decease and the issue of any such child or children who shall be then dead and have left issues in equal shares and proportions as and when

**John Akehurst**

Page 3 (p522)

Such child children and issue respectively shall attain the age of twenty one years But the issue of such child or respective children then dead shall take only such share or proportion or shares or proportions as his her their parent or respective parents would have been entitled to if living and no more. And, I empower my Executors and Trustees for the time being to invest and place out at interest in or upon any Government or real securities all such sums of money shall come into his or their hands by virtue hereof and from time to time to reinvest or replace the same at interest on other securities of a like nature. And I declare that my said Executors and Trustees for the time being shall not be answerable or accountable for the acts deeds or defaults of each other (the joining in receipts for conformity not withstanding) nor for any loss that may happen by the failure or deficiency of securities or by any other ways or means whatsoever without his her their respective wilful neglect or default. And further that it shall be lawful for my Executors and Trustees for the time being to deduct and retain out of my said estate all such costs charges and expenses as they ort he shall respectively pay and be put unto in the performance of this my Will or of the Trusts thereof.

And Lastly, I revoke all former Wills in witness whereof, I the said **John Akehurst** the Testator have to this my last Will and Testament contained in three sheets of paper set my hand and seal that is to say my hand to the first two sheets thereof and my hand and seal to this the third and last sheet thereof this twenty second day of April in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine.

**John Akehurst**

Signed sealed published and declared by the said
John Akehurst the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament
In the presence of us who in his presence and at his request and in
the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as Witnesses.
**Willian Venables**, Stone Mason, Hastings
**William Hathaway**, Clerk to Mr Tewins, Hastings

Page 4

Passed the seal 9th December 1844
December 6th 1844 then were sworn **Elizabeth Akehurst** and **Charles Booth** the Executrix and Executor in this Will named to whom was committed the execution thereof. And the said **Elizabeth Akehurst** and **Charles Booth** were also sworn that the goods, chattels and credits of the deceased were under the value of one hundred pounds.
Signed IG Foystn Testator died 2nd June 1844
Surrogate *(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 17 April 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
John Akehurst, bricklayer, testator
Elizabeth Akehurst, wife, executrix
Charles Booth of Hastings, carpenter, friend, executor
Thomas Akehurst, son
Thomas Akehurst, brother
William Venables, stonemason, witness
William Hathaway, clerk, witness

Places
Hastings
Brighton

Relevant Events
GRO Index: Apr-Jun 1844, Hastings, Vol 7 Page 257 (John Akehurst)
John Akehurst, of All Saints Hastings, married Elizabeth Bridgart of Brighton, on 13 May 1818 at Brighton.
Thomas Akehurst bap. 5 Mar 1823 at Hastings All Saints, son of John and Elizabeth, "bricklayer".
John Akehurst bap. 4 Jan 1826 at Hastings All Saints, son of John and Elizabeth, "bricklayer".
John Akehurst buried 17 Apr 1826 at Hastings All Saints, "7 months".
Elizabeth Acre [Akehurst?] buried 24 Jun 1820 at Hastings All Saints, "infant". (Possibility)
Note also a John Aker [Akehurst?] buried 10 Sep 1805 at Hastings All Saints. (Connected?)

Family Tree
See Tree 3. "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" in Chapter 2.

## 60. Will of Samuel Akehurst of Brighton, 1844

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/81/646)
Made: 13 Jun 1842
Died: 5 Jun 1844
Proved: 5 Nov 1844
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886196; images: 470-476)

Page 1 (image 470)
This is the last Will and Testament of me **Samuel Akehurst** of Brighton in the County of Sussex, Gentleman. First I direct my just debts and funeral and testamentary expences to be paid by my Executors hereinafter named as soon as conveniently may be after my decease and for as my two sons **Samuel Akehurst** and **William Henry Akehurst** have already been amply provided for by me in various ways and at various times during my life I consider that I cannot in justice to the other members of my family make any bequest or disposition in their favour other than the contingent bequest hereinafter mentioned.
I direct authorize and empower my Executors or Administrators for the time being as soon as conveniently may be after my decease to sell and dispose of all my copyhold messuages or tenements, land and hereditaments whatsoever and wheresoever and either by public auction or private contract as they shall think proper. And I direct my said Executors and Administrators for the time being to stand possessed of the monies to arise therefrom in aid of my personal estate. I give devise and bequeath unto my wife **Catherine Akehurst**, my daughter **Fanny Akehurst** and my son-in-law **William Reason** of Brighton aforesaid School Master their heirs Executors administrators and assigns all my messuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments and real estate whatsoever and wheresoever and also all my personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever to hold the same to them the said **Catherine Akehurst**, **Fanny Akehurst** and **William Reason** their heirs Executors Administrators and assigns according to the respective natures tenures and quality thereof but upon the several trusts following (that is to say) upon trust to sell dispose of collect call in and convert into money the whole of my said real and personal estates in such manner as they or the survivors or survivor shall in their discretion think proper and to stand possessed of and interested in the monies to arise therefrom and from the sale of my said copyhold hereditaments upon trust in the first place to pay thereout all my debts funeral and testamentary expences and also all mortgages and other incumbrances in any way affecting my said real or personal estates and all expences attending the sale or conversion thereof and to lay out and invest the residue of the produce of
Saml. Akehurst
Page 2 (image 471)
such sale or sales as aforesaid in their joint names in the public stocks or funds of Great Britain or upon real security in England at interest And to stand possessed of and interested therein upon trust to pay the interest dividends and proceeds thereof unto my dear wife **Catherine Akehurst** and her assigns for and during the term of her natural life And from and immediately after her decease then upon trust during the joint lives of my daughter **Elisa Akehurst** the wife of the said **William Reason** and the said **William Reason** to pay the interest dividends and proceeds of one moiety or half part of the said stocks funds and securities unto such person or persons as she my said daughter **Elisa Reason** by any writing signed by her own hand shall from time to time notwithstanding coverture and independently of the said **William Reason** direct or appoint And in default of such direction or appointment into the proper hands of the said **Elisa Reason** for her own sole and separate use and benefit so as that the same or any part thereof shall not be subject or liable to the debt control or engagement of the said **William Reason** and for which the receipt of receipts of her my said daughter **Elisa Reason** signed with her proper hand or of such person or persons as she shall appoint to receive the same as aforesaid (but not by way of anticipation) shall from time to time be a good and sufficient discharge and after the decease of either of them the said **William Reason** and **Elisa Reason** then I direct my trustees and Executors and Administrators for the time being their Executors Administrators

and assigns to assign transfer and set over the said moiety of the said trust monies stocks funds and securities unto the survivor of them the said William Reason and Elisa his wife his or her Executor Administrator and assigns for his or her own absolute use and disposal And I direct my said Trustees Executors and Administrators for the time being their Executors Administrators and assigns to stand possessed of and interested in the remaining moiety or half part of the said stocks funds and securities from and after the decease of my said wife **Catherine Akehurst** Upon trust to pay assign transfer and set over the same unto my said
Saml. Akehurst
Page 3 (image 472)
daughter **Fanny Akehurst** (if she shall then be living) and her Executors Administrators and assigns absolutely But in case she shall then be dead and have left issue her surviving then I direct my said Trustees and Executors and Administrators for the time being their Executors, Administrators and assigns to pay assign and transfer the said moiety of the said stocks funds and securities unto and amongst such issue equally to be divided between them share and share alike as and when they shall severally attain the age of twenty one years and the interest thereof in the meantime to be applied for their respective maintenance education and support But in case my said daughter **Fanny Akehurst** shall be dead at the time of the decease of my said wife and have not have left any issue her surviving then I direct my said Trustees and Executors and Administrators for the time being their Executors Administrators and assigns to pay assign transfer and make over such last mentioned moiety of the said stocks funds and securities unto my two sons **Samuel Akehurst** and **William Henry Akehurst** and their respective Executors Administrators and assigns equally to be divided between them share and share alike provided always and I do hereby will and declare that if my Trustees and Executors or Administrators for the time being their Executors Administrators and assigns shall think it more advisable to defer the sale of my said freehold leasehold or copyhold estates or any part thereof than to sell the same immediately after my decease it shall and may be lawful and I do hereby authorise and empower them to so defer the same so long as they shall think proper and in the meantime to apply the rents and profits thereof (after making due allowance for taxes and repairs and paying the interest of any mortgage, debts, ground rents and other incumbrances and charges affecting the same) to and for the same intents and purposes as the interest of the money to arise by the sale thereof would be applicable to Provided also and I do hereby authorise and empower my Trustees Executors and Administrators for the time being their Executors Administrators and assigns if they shall think fit previously to the sale of all or any part of my said Copyhold
Saml. Akehurst
Page 4 (image 473)
Freehold or leasehold estates by any deed or deeds to be by them legally executed from time to time to grant any lease or leases in possession but not in reversion or remainder or by way of future interest of my said freehold copyhold or leasehold estates or any part thereof to any person or persons whomsoever for any term or terms of years not exceeding twenty one years so as no such lease or leases be made dispunishable of waste and so as there be reserved therein the best and most improved yearly rent that can be obtained for the same without taking any fine or premium for the same And I appoint my said wife **Catherine Akehurst** my said daughter **Fanny Akehurst** and my said son-in-law **William Reason** Joint Executors in trust of this my Will And I declare that the receipt or receipts in writing of my Executors or Administrators for the time being for any monies to arise by the sale of my real or personal estates shall be effectual discharges to the purchase as thereof and that such purchasers shall not be responsible for the application of the same. And further that my Trustees and Executors and Administrators for the time being their Executors Administrators and assigns shall not be answerable for the acts deeds or defaults of each other nor for any money which shall not come to their respective hands nor for any loss or damage that may happen to the said Trust monies and premises unless the same shall happen through their own respective wilful neglect or default And I also authorise and empower them my said Executors Administrators and Trustees for the time being their Executors and Administrators to deduct and retain out of the said Trust monies all such expenses that

they shall incur in or about the performance of this my Will or the Trusts thereof or of any wise relating thereto
Provided also and I do hereby direct that in case any Trustee or Trustees hereby appointed or any future Trustee or Trustees to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned shall die or desire to be discharged from or decline or become incapable to act in the Trusts aforesaid then and so often as the same shall happen it shall be lawful for the acting or continuing Trustee or Trustees by any Deed or Deeds to appoint some other person or persons to be a Trustee or Trustees in the place and stead
Saml. Akehurst
Page 5 (image 474)
of the Trustee or Trustees so dying, desiring to be discharged from or declining or becoming incapable to act as aforesaid and that upon every such appointment the said Trust estates and premises shall be assigned and transferred in such manner and so as that the same may be effectually vested in the new Trustee or Trustees either solely or jointly with the other Trustees or Trustee as the case may require And that every such new Trustee shall have and be invested with such and the same powers authority and discretions to all intents and purposes whatsoever as if he had been originally appointed by this my Will And I revoke all former Wills by me made In testimony whereof I the said **Samuel Akehurst** the Testator have to this my last Will and Testament contained in five sheets of paper subscribed my name the thirteenth day of June one thousand eight hundred and forty two.
Saml. Akehurst
Signed published and declared by the
said **Samuel Akehurst** the Testator as
and for his last Will & Testament in the
joint presence of us who in his presence
at his request and in the joint presence
of each other have hereunto subscribed
our names as Witnesses
**Rn(?) Philpott**, Surgeon, Brighton
**Thos. Maughan**, Stamford Hill, London
**H Greene**, Solr Brighton

On the 5th day of November 1844 were sworn **Catherine Akehurst, Fanny Akehurst and William Reason** the Executors in this Will named to whom was committed the Execution thereof.
And the said **Catherine Akehurst, Fanny Akehurst and William Reason** were at the same time sworn that the Goods Chattels and Credits of the Deceased were under the value of eight hundred pounds.
Under caution
By us
A Nott, Surrogate
Testator died 5th June 1844
*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, April 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
Samuel Akehurst, Gentleman, testator
Catherine Akehurst, wife, executor
Samuel Akehurst, son
William Henry Akehurst, son
Fanny Akehurst, daughter, executor
William Reason, schoolmaster, son-in-law, executor
Elisa Reason, daughter, wife of William Reason
R Philpott, surgeon, witness
Thomas Maughan, witness
H Greene, solicitor, witness

Places
Brighton

Relevant Events
Samuel Akehurst buried 12 Jun 1844 at Brighton St Nicholas, "68 years, London Rd".
Catherine Akehurst buried 28 May 1845 at Brighton St Nicholas, "70 years, London Rd".
Eliza Akehurst married William Reason on 31 May 1841 at Brighton. William was a widower, previous marriage to Sarah Penn on 6 Jun 1827 at Brighton.
William Reason born c1805 at March, Cambridgeshire according to 1851 census.
(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
See Tree 3. "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" in Chapter 2.

## 61. Will of John Akehurst of Wartling, 1855

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/85/207)
Made: 26th June 1844
Died: 17th April 1855
Proved: 27th August 1855
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886238; images: 797-801)

[page 1]
This is the last Will and Testament of Me **John Akehurst** of Wartling in the County of Sussex, Yeoman. First I order and direct that my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses shall be paid and discharged by my Executrixes hereinafter mentioned as soon as can be conveniently done so after my decease. I give and bequeath all my monies, securities for money, my live and dead farming stock, household furniture, goods and chattels and personal estate of whatever sort or kind unto my Executrixes hereinafter named. Upon Trust that they my said Executrixes do and shall permit and suffer my dear wife **Ann Akehurst** if she shall think fit to carry on my farming business as long as she pleases and retain my farming stock and utensils in carrying on such business and to permit my said dear wife to receive the interest dividends and annual produce of my personal estate and use my household furniture and effects for and during the term of her natural life provided she shall so long remain my widow but not otherwise and provided she becomes responsible for the amount of the said live and dead stock and farming utensils and from and immediately after the decease or second marriage of my said wife which shall first happen. Upon trust, to sell, call in, pay, assign, transfer, distribute and divide my said personal estate or the funds or securities in or upon which the same shall be invested unto and equally between and amongst my children namely **Mary Akehurst, Jane Akehurst, Charlotte Akehurst, Naomi** the wife of **Thomas Pullinger** of Ticehurst in the County of Sussex, Wheelwright, **Orpha** the wife of **Thomas Crowhurst** of Wartling, Farrier, and **Emily Akehurst** or such of them as shall be living at the time of my decease and the issue of such of them as shall be dead leaving issue in equal shares and proportions in case and as they shall severally attain the age of twenty one years. The issue of such child or children as shall be dead leaving issue then living to be entitled to and to receive (if more than one) equally amongst them, the share to which the parent of such respective issue would have been entitled to if living and no more and to become entitled to a vested interest therein and when and as soon as the parent of such respective issue would have been entitled to if such vested interest and in case any of my said children or issue shall die without leaving issue before his, her or their share or respective shares shall become an interest vested in him, her or them respectively, then the share or shares

**John Akehurst**

[page 2]
of him, her or them dying, shall go and be paid unto the survivors or survivor, or other or others of such children or issue respectively per stirpes in manner and in the proportions aforesaid when and as his, her, or their original share or shares shall become due and payable, provided always and my will is and I do hereby empower my Executrixes hereinafter named and the survivor of them and the Executors and Administrators of such survivor as occasion requires them to invest and place out at interest in or upon any of the public stocks or funds or in or upon such real security or securities as they or the survivor shall think proper all or any sum or sums of money which shall come into their or either of their hands or power in the performance or execution of this my will or by means or reason thereof and from time to time to sell out, call in or reinvest or replace the same at interest in manner aforesaid as may be deemed expedient and I declare that my Executrixes hereinafter named or the Executors or Administrators of either of them shall not be answerable or accountable for the acts deeds or defaults of each other (the joining in of receipts for conformity not withstanding) nor for any loss that may happen by the failure of securities or by any other ways or means whatsoever without their and her wilful respective neglect or default. And I further

authorize and empower my Executrixes and the Survivor of them and the Executor or Administrator of such survivor to deduct and retain to themselves, himself and herself respectively out of the said Trust premises all such costs, charges, damages or expenses as they or either of them respectively shall pay, expend, sustain, or be at or put unto in or about the performance and execution of this my Will or the Trusts hereof or in anywise concerning the same. And I hereby authorize and empower my Executrixes or the survivor of them and the legal personal representative of such otherwise to apply the interest or dividends or annual produce of any minor's share who may be entitles to any share of my personal estate under this my Will for and towards his, her or their maintenance and education during his, her or their minority or minorities in such manner as my said personal representative or representatives shall see fit. Lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my dear wife **Ann Akehurst** and my said daughter **Mary Akehurst** joint Executors of this my Will and hereby revoking all former Wills by me at any time heretofore made.

**John Akehurst**

[page 3]
In testimony whereof the said **John Akehurst**, the Testator, have set my hand to each of the two first sheets of this my last Will and Testament contained in three sheets of paper and my hand and seal to this the third and last sheet thereof the twenty sixth day of June in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty four.

**John Akehurst**

Signed sealed published and declared by the said
**John Akehurst**, the Testator, as and for his last Will
and Testament in the presence of us present at the
same time who at his request in his presence and in
the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed
our names as witnesses.
**Reuben Terrewest** Eastbourne
**John MD Smith** West Ham
Gentlemen

[page 4]
**This is a Codicil** to be annexed to and taken as part of the last Will and Testament of me **John Akehurst** of Wartling in the County of Sussex, Yeoman, bearing date the twenty sixth day of June one thousand eight hundred and forty four. Whereas in and by my said Will I gave and bequeathed all my monies, securities for money, my live and dead farming stock, household furniture, goods, chattels and personal estate of whatever, sort or kind unto my Executrixes thereinafter named and did thereby constitute and appoint my dear wife therein named and my daughter **Mary Akehurst**, joint Executrixes of this my Will. Now I do by this Codicil constitute and appoint **John Trill** of Dallington in the said County, Farmer, an Executor of my said Will and I declare it to be my Will and intention that he, the said **John Trill**, should act together with my said wife and my said daughter in the execution of my said Will and of the Trusts thereby in my said Executrixes reposed and under and subject to the same powers and provisions as there therein contained and in all respects as fully and as amply as if the said **John Trill** had been appointed an Executor in and by my said Will. And in all other respects I do ratify my said Will. In witness whereof I have to this Codicil set my hand and seal this seventeenth day of June in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty eight.

**John Akehurst**

Signed sealed published and declared by the said
John Akehurst, the Testator, as and for a Codicil
To be annexed to and taken as part of his last

Will and Testament in the presence of us present
At the same time who in his presence and at his
Request and in the presence of each other have
Hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses.
R Terrewest
Alfred Whiteman, Eastbourne

[page 5]
On the eighth day of May 1855
Was sworn **John Trill**, one of the ……. Executors of the within Will and Codicil to whom was committed the execution thereof (power being reserved for granting the like commission to **Ann Akehurst and Mary Akehurst** the Executrixes named in the said Will when they should come in one form of law to require the same). And the said John Trill was at the same time sworn that the goods, chattels and credits were under the value of three thousand pounds.
Under caution by us.
A Nott, Surrogate

Testator died 17th April 1855

And on the 27th day of August 1855 there sworn the above named **Ann Akehurst and Mary Akehurst** the Executrixes named in the said Will to whom was also committed this within Will and Codicil they being sworn duly to administer that the goods, chattels and credits were under the value of three thousand pounds.
Under caution
A Nott, Surrogate

Probate made
Second Probate made and dated 27th August 1855

## Second probate made

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/85/291B)
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886238; image: 895)

John Akehurst of Wartling 27th August 1855
The Will and Codicil of **John Akehurst** late of Wartling within the Archdeaconry of Lewes, Yeoman, deceased which were proved on the eighth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty five by **John Trill** one of the Executors therein named with power reserved of granting the like commission to **Ann Akehurst and Mary Akehurst**, the other Executors named in the said Will (see Register 207) were again proved on the twenty seventh day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty five before the Reverend Anthony Nott, Clerk Surrogate and so forth upon the oaths of the said **Ann Akehurst and Mary Akehurst**, to whom was committed the administration of the goods etc. of the said Testator jointly with the said **John Trill** they being first sworn well and faithfully to administer the same and so forth. And as the goods be unadministered aforesaid were under the value of three thousand pounds.
*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 8 May 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
John Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Anne Akehurst, wife, executrix
Mary Akehurst, daughter, executrix
Jane Akehurst, daughter
Charlotte Akehurst, daughter
Naomi Akehurst, daughter, wife of Thomas Pullinger
Thomas Pullinger of Ticehurst, wheelwright, son-in-law
Orpha Pullinger, daughter, wife of Thomas Crowhurst
Thomas Crowhurst, son-in-law, farrier, of Wartling
Emily Crowhurst, daughter
John Trill of Dallington, farmer, executor
Reuben Terrewest of Eastbourne, witness
John Smith of Westham, witness
Alfred Whiteman of Eastbourne, witness

Places
Wartling
Ticehurst
Eastbourne
Westham
Dallington

Relevant Events
John Akehurts was buried 21 Apr 1855 at Herstmonceux All Saints, "farmer of Wartling Hill, 76 years".
The 1851 census records John Akehurst as a "farmer of 126 acres employing 7 labourers".
John Akehurst married Ann Collins on 21 Oct 1802 at Wartling.
John Akehurst baptised 21 Mar 1779 at Herstmonceux All Saints, son of John Akehurst and Sarah Collins.
Naomin Akehurst married Thomas Pullinger on 25 Jul 1839 at Wadhurst.
Orpha Akehurst married Thomas Crowhurst on 9 Mar 1837 at Wartling.
(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
See Tree 7. "John Akehurst and Susannah Pollington of Herstmonceux" in Chapter 2.

## 62. Will of William Akehurst of Brighton, 1855

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/85/272)
Made: 20th December 1854
Died: 6th February 1855
Proved: 2nd August 1855
www.familysearch.org (film no: 1886238; images: 873-875)

[page 1]
This is the last Will and Testament of **William Akehurst** of St James St in the Parish of Brighton in the County of Sussex. Firstly I desire that all my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses be paid and satisfied by my Executor hereinafter named as soon as conveniently may be after my decease and secondly, I give devise and bequeath all my real and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever unto my dear wife **Ann Akehurst** for her sole use and benefit during her natural life and at her decease I give devise and bequeath all monies from every source unto and among the following of my children to be equally shared, namely **William Akehurst, Stephen Akehurst, Mary Ann Akehurst, Benjamin Akehurst, Elizabeth Turner, Susanna Kettle, Rebeckah Akehurst, Sarah Anscombe, Ruth Akehurst** and the issue of them afore named as are dead or shall be dead, such issue taking only the share to which their deceased parent if surviving would have been entitled to, to be equally divided among them for their own use absolutely. Also I give devise and bequeath such furniture, books, pictures, plates, linen, china and other effects which belong to me to be at the decease of my dear wife, equally shared among such of my children as shall then be alive only and I nominate constitute and appoint my son **William Akehurst** to be Executor of this my Will and hereby revoking all former or other Wills by me at any time heretofore made. I declare this to be my last Will and Testament, in witness whereof, I the said **William Akehurst** have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand the twentieth day of December in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty four

**Wm. Akehurst**

Signed by the said William Akehurst the
Testator as and for his last Will and Testament
in the presence of us present at the same time
who have hereunder subscribed our names
as witnesses in the presence of the said
Testator and of each other.

**Benjamin Beal**, 10 Sydney Street, Brighton
**William Hatcher**, 7 Sydney Street, Brighton

[page 2]
The deceased was a saddler.
On the 2nd day of August 1855 was sworn **William Akehurst**, the sole Executor in this Will named to whom was committed the execution thereof and the said William Akehurst was at the same time sworn that the goods chattels and credits of the deceased were under the value of four hundred and fifty pounds.
Under caution by us.
A Nott Surrogate

Testator died 6th February 1855
*(Transcribed by Sharon Ingersole, 8 May 2017)*

**NOTES:**

People
William Akehurst, testator
Ann Akehurst, wife
William Akehurst, son, executor
Stephen Akehurst, son
Mary Ann Akehurst, daughter
Benjamin Akehurst, son
Elizabeth Turner, daughter
Susanna Kettle, daughter
Rebeckah Akehurst, daughter
Sarah Anscombe, daughter
Ruth Akehurst, daughter
Benjamin Beal, witness
William Hatcher, witness

Places
Brighton
Westham

Relevant Events
GRO Deaths Index: Jan-Mar 1855, Brighton, Vol 2b Page 127
1851 census (125 St James's St, Brighton):

William Akehurst, age 70 years, born Brighton.
Ann Akehurst, wife, age 69 years, born Battle
Sarah Akehurst, unmarried, 28 years, born Brighton.

William Akehurst bap. 14 Aug 1780 at Brighton St Nicholas, son of Thomas and Mary Akehurst.
William's parents are Thomas Akehurst of Westham married Mary Glazier of Brighton on 13 Jul 1770 at Brighton.

Family Tree
See Tree 3. "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" in Chapter 2.

## 63. Will of William Akehurst of Hastings, 1883

Made: 29 Mar 1881
Codicil: 5 Aug 1881
Codicil: 23 Dec 1882
Proved: 22 Mar 1883

This is the last will and testament of me **William Akehurst** of Hastings in the country of Sussex Yeoman whereof I appoint my son The **Reverend George Akehurst** clerk and **Thomas White** of Saint Andrews Road Hastings aforesaid Grocer to the Executors I devise and bequeath all the real and personal estate which shall belong to me at the time of my decease Unto and to the use of my said son George Akehurst and the said **Thomas White** their heirs executors and administrators and assigns respectively upon trust to convert and get in my personal estate (except my leasehold estates) and invest the moneys to be produced thereby and to pay the income of such moneys and investments and the rents and profits of my said real and leasehold estates (which moneys investments and real and leasehold estates are hereinafter referred to as "the trust estate") unto my wife **Hannah** during her life and after her decease as to the trust estate and future income upon trust for my children videlicet **George**, **William**, **Ann the wife of Edward Elphick of London hosier**, **Mary, Fanny the wife of Albert Barham, Edward Thomas, Jane the wife of William Goodman Porter and Alfred** in equal shares But in case any of my said children shall die before the period at which a sale is hereinafter directed of my real and leasehold estates which period is hereinafter referred to as "the period of division" without leaving issue the shares or share (as well accruing as original) of them him or her so dying shall go to the others or other of them and if more than one in equal shares Provided nevertheless and I expressly declare that until the period of division the share (as well accruing as original) of every of my said children shall be held and retained in trust to pay the income only thereof to such child And that in case of his or her decease before the period of division the corpus or capital of such share and the future income shall be held upon trust for the child if only one or all the children equally if more than one of my same child who has attained or either before or after the death on my same child shall attain the age of twenty one years or marry his her or their respective heirs executors administrators and assigns. Provided nevertheless and not withstanding anything hereinafter contained I also declare that in case of my daughter **Ann Elphick** should die before the period of division and the said **Edward Elphick** her husband shall survive her the income of her share (as well accruing as original) when in possession shall from and after her death be paid to him during his life and that in case my said son **Alfred** should die before the period of division and his wife **Ann** should survive him then the income of his share (as well accruing as original) when in possession shall from and after his death be paid to her during her life And in case my son **Edward Thomas** should die before the division without leaving issue then I give to **Mahala** his wife the sum of Fifty pounds to be raised and paid out the trust estate as soon as conveniently may be after the death of my wife and the same son provided further that if the income or any part thereof payable to any child of mine until the period of division shall by any means whatever vest in or become payable to any other person or persons than such child then the trust hereinbefore contained in his or her favour shall as to the income which shall so vest in or become payable to any other person or persons thenceforth absolutely cease and the same income shall thenceforth until the period of division if my said child shall so long live be applied in the same manner as the same would be applicable if he or she were dead and I hereby declare that the more convenient division of my estate among the persons entitled thereto or otherwise, the trustees or trustee for the time being of my will after the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and ninety if my said wife shall be then dead, if not then on her decease shall sell my real and leasehold estates together or in parcels by auction or privately and shall deal with and apply the moneys to arise from the sale thereof as if the same were part of my personal estate Provided also in case it should happen whilst my wife

shall be living or before the period of division that any mortgage or other incumbrance affecting my real and leasehold estates or any part thereof shall be xxxxxx in and required to be paid off or it should become necessary to raise any moneys this my will then I empower the said trustees of trustee for the time being to mortgage or otherwise charge such real and leasehold estates or any part or parts thereof or join in any transfer of any such mortgage or other incumbrance in order to raise moneys for the purposes aforesaid and for all consequent expenses and to give any mortgagee or mortgagees transferee or transferees any power of sale or any other usual or reasonable power or powers I empower and direct the said trustees or trustee for the time being whilst my wife shall be living or until the period of the division to let my real and leasehold estates or any part or parts thereof from year to year or for any term not exceeding twenty one years and generally in such manner as such trustees or trustee shall think fit I exonerate any purchaser lessee mortgagee or other incumbrance from enquiring into the necessity for or propriety or regularity of any sale lease mortgage transfer or charge purporting to be made under any of the forgoing powers and from liability on account of any impropriety or irregularity therein I declare that investments of trust moneys under or in pursuance of this will shall be made in the names of name of the trustees or trustee for the time being of my will in such securities or investments as I may have at my death or in such securities personal real or otherwise as they or he shall think fit and that they and he shall have power to change investments at their or his sole discretion. I declare than any property or interest coming to any female beneficially under this will shall be held and enjoyed by her for her sole and separate use notwithstanding coverture I devise all real estates vested in me as trustee or mortgagee unto my said son **George Akehurst** and the said **Thomas White** their heirs and assigns subject to the trusts and equities affecting the same respectively. Lastly I revoke all former wills in witness whereof I have hereunder set my hand and I have also let my hand to each of the two preceding sheets of this my will this twenty ninth day of March One thousand eight hundred and eighty one.

Signed by the said **William Akehurst** the testator as and for this last will and testament in the presence of us present at the same time who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each together have hereunto subscribed are names as witness.

**W Akehurst**

**John Charles Meadows** Solicitor Hastings
**Edwd T B Auston** clerk to Meadows Elliott Solicitors Hastings.

This is a Codicil to the forgoing will whereas I have as surety joined with **Edward Elphick** the husband of my daughter **Ann** in a promissory note for securing to my son the **Reverend George Akehurst** or his order the sum of Three hundred pounds advanced by him to the said **Edward Elphick** with interest thereon at the rate of Five pounds per cent per annum. Now I hereby direct and declare that in the case of the said **Edward Elphick** his executors or administrators shall not pay the said sum of Three hundred pounds and the interest for the same in my lifetime or in the lifetime of my wife **Hannah** and I or my executors or administrators shall be called upon to pay or shall actually pay the same sum and interest or any part or parts thereof (whether statute based or not) the moneys so paid by me or my executors or administrators shall be raised and deducted out of the share of the trust estate mentioned and referred to in the said will which my said daughter **Ann** will xxx if she shall live till the period of division. mentioned and referred to therein and that such moneys shall be so raised and deducted out of such share whether my said daughter shall die before he same period or not in all other

respects I confirm my said will. In witness whereof I have hereinto set by hand this fifth day of August one thousand eight hundred and eighty one.

Signed by the said **William Akehurst**
the testator as and for a codicil to his last
will and testament in the presence of us
present at this same time who at his **W Akehurst**
request in his presence and in the
presence of each other have hereinto
subscribed our names as witness
**John C Meadows** Solicitor Hastings
**Edwd F B Austin** clerk to Messrs Meadows and Elliott Solicitors Hastings.

This is a second codicil to the will of me **William Akehurst** of Hastings in Sussex Yeoman while will bears date the twenty ninth day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty one and the first codicil to which bears date the fifth day of August one thousand eight hundred and eighty one in case my daughter Mary shall live till the period at which a sale is directed by my said will of my real and leasehold estates I direct that the share (as well accruing as original) of my said daughter in the moneys to be produced by the conversion and getting in of my personal estate (expect my leasehold estates) and in the investments thereof and also in the moneys to arise from the sale of my real and leasehold estates shall be retained by the trustees or trustee for the time being of my will an invested in such security personal real or otherwise and they or he shall think fit with power to changes investments and at the same share an the investments thereof shall be held by such trustees or trustee. Upon trust to pay the income thereof to my said daughter during her life and after her death upon trust for my other children name in my said will absolutely in equal shares expect as aforesaid I confirm my said will and first codicil in witness whereof I have hereinto set my hand this twenty third day of December one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.

Signed by the said **William Akehurst**
the testator as and for a second codicil to
this last will and testament in the
presence of us present at the same time **W Akehurst**
who at this request in his presence and in
the presence of each other have hereinto
subscribed our names as witnesses.
**Edward T B Austin**
**Rowland T Thompson** clerks to Messrs Meadows & Elliott Solicitors Hastings

Proved at Lewes with two codicils the 22nd day of March 1883 to the oaths of the **Reverend George Akehurst** clerk the son and **Thomas White** the executors named in the will to whom administration was granted.

The testator **William Akehurst** was late of Hastings in the country of Sussex Yeoman and died on the fourth day of January 1883 at Hastings aforesaid.
Gross Amount £304.15.9
Net amount £270.8.1
Meadows & Elliott Solicitors Hastings and certify this is be a true copy.
*(Transcribed by Kathryn Ellis 23/2/2011)*

**NOTES:**

People
William Akehurst, yeoman, testator
Hannah Akehurst, wife
Reverend George Akehurst, son, executor
(probate states of 3 Rothwell St, Regent's Park Road, Middlesex)
Thomas White, grocer of Hastings, executor
William Akehurst, son
Ann Elphick, daughter, the wife of Edward Elphick of London hosier
Edward Elphick, son-in-law
Mary Akehurst, daughter
Fanny Barham, daughter, the wife of Albert Barham
Albert Barham, son-in-law
Edward Thomas Akehurst, son
Jane Porter, daughter, the wife of William Goodman Porter
William Goodman Porter, son-in-law
Alfred Akehurst, son

Places
Hastings
London
Hooe

Relevant Events
William Akehurst died 4 Jan 1883 at Hastings (as stated in the probate).
Monumental inscription:[74]

> *A man of simple piety and gentle*
> *manners, kind to all and of*
> *irreproachable life. Born at Pevensey*
> *died at Hastings in his 83rd year.*

GRO Index: Jan-Mar 1883, Hastings, Vol 2b Page 19. Age 82 years.
Born c1800 at Pevensey (1861 census). Occupation: Fly proprietor.
Born c1800 at Hooe (1871 census). Occupation: Fly proprietor.
Born c1801 at Hooe (1881 census). Occupation: Retired Fly proprietor.
William Akehurst bap. 15 Jun 1800 (born 16 Dec 1799) at Hooe, son of John and Mary.
William Akehurst married Hannah Beany on 4 Dec 1822 at Hastings St Clement.
William's parents are: John Akehurst of Hooe married Mary Richardson on 14 Aug 1792 at Bexhill. Banns state Mary is of Bexhill.(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
See Tree 3. "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" in Chapter 2.

[74] *Hastings Cemetery Memorials Index*, Friends of Hastings Cemetery.

## 64. Will of Hannah Akehurst of Hastings, 1885

Made: 28 Jan 1884
Proved: 12 Feb 1885

This is the last will of me **Hannah Akehurst** of Hastings in the county of Sussex widow I appoint **Thomas White** of Hastings aforesaid grocer and **Edward Thomas Burchall Austin** of the same place solicitors clerk to be the executors and the trustees of this my will and I give to them all my property in trust to convert the same into money by sale or otherwise and to divide the proceeds (after paying thereout my funeral and testamentary expenses and debts) among the following children of mine namely **George, William, Ann the wife of Edward Elphick, Mary, Edward Thomas, Jane the wife of William Goodman Porter and Alfred** in equal shares In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this twenty eighth day of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty four.
Signed by the said **Hannah Akehurst** as
and for her last will in the presence of us
present at the same time who at her request **H Akehurst**
in her presence and in the presence of each
other have hereinto subscribed our names as witness.
**William Austin** 258 Mount Pleasant Road Hastings carpenter
**Alice Skinner** 193 St George Road Hastings spinster.

Proved at Lewes the 12th day of February 1885 by the oaths of **Thomas White** and **Edward Thomas Burchall Austin** the executors to whom administration was granted.
The Testator Hannah Akehurst was late of Hastings in the County of Sussex widow and died on the eighteenth day of January 1885 at Hastings aforesaid
Gross Amount £225.5.0
Meadows Elliott Solicitors Hastings.
*(Transcribed by Kathryn Ellis 2011)*

## NOTES:

People
Hannah Akehurst, widow, testator
Thomas White, grocer of Hastings, executor
George Akehurst, son
William Akehurst, son
Ann Elphick, daughter, the wife of Edward Elphick
Edward Elphick, son-in-law
Mary Akehurst, daughter
Edward Thomas Akehurst, son
Jane Porter, daughter, the wife of William Goodman Porter
William Goodman Porter, son-in-law
Alfred Akehurst, son
William Austin, witness
Alice Skinner, witness

Places
Hastings
Salehurst

Relevant Events

Hannah died 18 Jan 1885 at Hastings (as stated in the probate).
Monumental inscription:[75]

> *Born 24/01/1803 For nearly 60 years*
> *the faithful and devoted wife of William*
> *Akehurst. A woman of singular virtue*
> *and integrity.*

GRO Index: Jan-Mar 1885, Hastings, Vol 2b Page 24. Age 82 years.
William Akehurst married Hannah Beany on 4 Dec 1822 at Hastings St Clement.
Hannah Beany bap. 20 Mar 1803 at Salehurst, daughter of Edward and Sarah (SFHG indexes)

Family Tree

See Tree 3. "Edward Akehurst of Hooe" in Chapter 2.

[75] *Hastings Cemetery Memorials Index*, Friends of Hastings Cemetery.

## 65. Will of Melezener Meria Akehurst of Hellingly, 1888

(ESRO: ACC8087/88)
Made: 21 Apr 1885
Proved: 5 Nov 1888

This is the last Will and Testament of **Melezener Meria Akehurst** Widow of the Parish of Hellingly in the County of Sussex I hereby bequeath all my real and personal estate upon trust *[there's a problem with the transcript in this area]* hereinafter named **David Austin** & **Nelson Edward Austin** Gunsmiths of the Parish of Hellingly and I direct that after my said debts the cost and charges of proving this my will be fully paid and the whole of the remaining Cottages I give and bequeath unto my daughter **Bilenda Mansell** the wife of **Edward Mansell** if living at the time of my decease for her own use and benefit And I declare this my will and deed dated this twenty first day of April One thousand eight hundred and eighty five - Signed and sealed by me - **Melezener Meria Akehurst** (L.S.) - In the presence of two witnesses whom have hereunto subscribed their names as witnesses in the presence of each other - **Henry Akehurst** (L.S.) - **Stephens Huggett** (L.S.)
Extracted by King and Hughes, Solicitors, Maidstone

Administration attached to the Will
In Her Majesty's High Court of Justice, Be it known that **Melezener Meria Akehurst** late of the Parish of Hellingly in the County of Sussex Widow deceased, who died on the 15th day of November 1887, at Hellingly aforesaid a Widow, made and duly executed her last Will and Testament and did not therein name any Executor or Residuary Legatee
And be it further known, that at the date hereunder written, Letters of Administration, with the Will (a Copy whereof is hereunto annexed) of the personal estate of the said deceased were granted by Her Majesty's High Court of Justice at the Principal Registry of the Probate Division thereof to **Belinda Mansell** (wife of **Edward Mansell**) the natural and lawful daughter and only next of kin of the said deceased she having been first sworn well and faithfully to administer the same.
And it is hereby certified that an Affidavit in verification of the Account of the said estate has been delivered duly stamped wherein it is shown that the gross value of the said estate amounts to £359/19/3 and no more.
Dated the 5th day of November 1888
**Chas J Middleton**
Extracted by King and Hughes, Sols, Maidstone
*(Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, August 2016).*

## NOTES:

People
Melezener Meria Akehurst, widow, testator
David Austin, gunsmith of Hellingly
Nelson Edward Austin, gunsmith of Hellingly
Bilenda Mansell, daughter, the wife of Edward Mansell, only next of kin
Henry Akehurst, witness
Stephen Huggett, witness

Places
Hellingly
Hailsham

Relevant Events
Melezener Meria Akehurst died 15 Nov 1887 (as stated in the probate).
Melezenar Maria Austin [sic] married Stephen Akehurst in 1848 at Hailsham registration district (GRO Index: Apr-Jun 1848, Hailsham, Vol 7 Page 539)
Her baptism has not been found.
Born c1818 at Hellingly, wife of Stephen Akehurst born c1817 at Hellingly (1861 census).
Stephen Akehurst bap. 4 Aug 1816 at Hellingly son of John & Ann Akehurst, labourer.
David Austin bap. 9 Feb 1834 at Hellingly, son of Nathaniel and Mary Ann Austin.
His son, Nelson Edward Austin born 1862 at Hellingly (1891 census, GRO Index).
(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**John Akehurst,** b. c1777, d. 1848 at Hailsham
+ **Ann Pocock,** bap. 1777 at Chalvington, m. 1799 at Hellingly, d. 1863 at Hellingly
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1805 at Hellingly
  - + **Eliza Bishop,** b. c1803, m. 1825 at Hellingly, d. 1846 at Hailsham
    - **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1825 at Hellingly, d. 1893 at Lewes
    - **George Akehurst,** bap. 1828 at Hellingly, d. 1833 at Hellingly
    - **John Akehurst,** bap. 1833 at Hellingly
- **George Akehurst,** bap. 1806 at Hellingly
- **Henry Akehurst,** bap. 1808 at Hellingly
- **William Akehurst,** bap. 1811 at Hellingly
- **Thomas Akehurst,** bap. 1814 at Hellingly
- **Stephen Akehurst,** bap. 1816 at Hellingly, d. 1869 at Hailsham
  - + **Melezener Meria Austin,** b. c1818 at Hellingly, m. 1848 at Hailsham, d. 1887 at Hellingly
    - **Belinda Akehurst,** b. 1849 at Hellingly, d. 1912
      - + **Edward Mansell,** m. 1875 at Atcham, SAL
    - **Rhoda Eliza Akehurst,** b. c1852 at Hellingly, d. 1863 at Hellingly
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1821 at Hellingly, d. 1833 at Hellingly

# Chapter 4 - Other Related Wills and Documents

## 66. Will of Richard Baker of Hastings, 1638

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/25/80)
Made: 10 Sep 1637
Buried: 15 Sep 1637 at Hastings St Clement
Proved: 27 Jan 1637/38
www.familysearch.org (film: 1885823; image: 199)

In the name of God Amen The Tenth Daie of September Anno Dmi 1637 I **Richard Baker** of the Towne & Porte of Hasting in the County of Sussex yoman being sick of Bodie but of pfect memory (blessed be God for it) doe make & ordaine this my last will & Testament in manner & forme following That is to say First I comend my Soule into the hands of ~~blessed~~ God my blessed Creator undoubtedlie beleving the Remission of my Sinnes & expecting eternall Salvation only in & by the all sufficient [error deleted] satisfactorie sufferings & merritts of my most gracious Savio[u]r & Redeemer Jesus Christ And my Body to Xtien burial at the Discreation of my loving wife And for my temporall estate wherewth it hath pleased God in mercie to blesse me I dispose of it as followeth Inprimis to the poore people of the pish of St Cl[e]m[en]t in Hasting aforesaid I give Twentie shillinges to be distributed amongst them wthin one moneth next after my decease at the discreation of my Executrix Itm all my Marsh Landes wth their appurtenances in Pevensea and wartling levells or either of them called litle Lampham or by what other name or names els they be called or knowen // I give to **Anne** my said loving wife to hold to her & her Assignes during her naturall life and after her decease then to my eldest sonne **Richard** his heires & Assignes forever Item I give my Messuage or Tenemt & Crofte of Land wth thapppurtnenances in Turnebridge ~~I give~~ to my said sonne **Richard** & his heires forever Item more I give unto my said sonne Richard Twoe hundred poundes of lawfull mony of England To be paid him at his age of one & twentie yeres Item to my second sonne **John** I give Two hundred & fiftie poundes of like lawfull mony of England to be paid him at his like age of one & twentie yeares Item to my Daughter **Mary** I give the like some of Two hundred & fiftie poundes of like lawfull mony of England To be paid unto her at her like age of one & twenty yeres or daie of her mariage wch shall first happen Also I give to the Child wherewth my ~~wif~~ said wife now goeth the like some of Two hundred & fiftie poundes of like lawfull mony of England to be paid (if it be a sonne) at ~~the~~ his like age of one & twentie yeres but if it be a daughter at her like age or daie of her mariage wch shall first happen And my expresse will & meaning is That if it // please God any my said Children shall die before they come to enioye theire said sev[er]all porcons Then the Survivor & Survivors of them shall have & enioye the said Porcon & Porcons of the deceased of them equallie devided amonge them Not doubting (as I meane & desire) but that my said loving wife wilbe to give & provide for them (in the meane tyme) Christien & honest educacon & intruction in the knowledge of God & course of living &c Item I give to my loving Brother **John** a Twentie shillings peice of Gold in remembrance of my brotherlie love & affection towards him To be paid him wthin one moneth next after my decease & I make & ordaine my said loving wife Anne my sole Executrix of this my last will & Testamt And my loving freinds my Unkle **Richard Keete** Mr **Richard Boys** & Mr **Edward Bennett** Clarke Jurates of Hasting aforesaid & my said wife her mother Mrs **Mary Akehurst** widdow overseers thereof instantlie praying their ioynt & sev[er]all assistance & advise to my said Executrixe in the xecucon [error deleted] of the same & managing my said estate {so best ???} her To every of my said overseers I give a Ten shillings peice of gold in token of my love towards them To be payd wthin one moneth next after my decease In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & Seale geven the daie & yeare first above written theis being witnesses

**Richard Baker** **Mary Akehurst** **Thomas Rainolds**

Probate: 27th January 1637/8 to **Anne Baker**, relict and executrix.

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 7 September 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People

Richard Baker, yeoman, testator
Anne Baker, wife, executrix
Richard Baker, eldest son
John Baker, second son
Mary Baker, daughter
Unborn child (Abraham, bap. 25 Feb 1637/38 at Hastings St Clement after Richard Baker's death)
John Baker, brother
Richard Keete, uncle, overseer
Richard Boys, overseer
Edward Bennett, overseer
Mary Akehurst, widow, mother-in-law, overseer, witness
Thomas Rainolds [Reynolds?] , witness

Places

Hastings
Pevensea
Wartling
Little Lampham
Tunbridge, Kent
Lewes

Relevant Events

Mary Baker, baptised 10 Feb 1621/22 at Hastings St Clement, daughter of Richard Baker.

Mary Akehurst (nee Baker) buried 29 Sep 1691, Quaker burial ground, Rottingden.

John Baker, baptised 15 Nov 1629 at Hastings St Clement, son of Richard Baker.

John Baker, buried 18 Mar 1645 at Hastings St Clement, "son of Mrs Franke" [his mother had remarried Richard Franke, refer ESRO: MIL 1/15/2 ].

Abraham Baker, baptised 25 Feb 1637/38 at Hastings St Clement, "Anne (widow)".

Mary Baker of Burwash married Randolph [Raphe] Akehurst of Cliffe, Lewes on 11 Aug 1653 at Warbleton. (SFHG Marriage Index)

Richard Baker's wife Anne Baker remarried c1639 to Richard Franck. As Anne Franck she is mentioned as a beneficiary in her brother John Akehurst's will (see below).

Other

The document "**Assignment of mortgage for £138 13s 4d**", dated 17 Aug 1691, provides valuable genealogical history for Anne Franck mentioning her previous marriage to Richard Baker, her four children to him (Richard, Mary, John and Abraham), her daughter Mary Baker's marriage to Raphe Akehurst, the death of her mother Mary Akehurst c1639 and the death of her son John Baker before the age of 21 years:[76]

> Ann Wenham of Laughton, widow, to William Benbrigg of Boreham Street in Wartling, gent
>
> 1. The Gulphes and The Halton (18 acres) with a barn, occupied by Richard Atherall in 1639.

[76] *Assignment of mortgage for £138 13s 4d*, dated 17 Aug 1691, (ESRO: MIL 1/15/2)

2. The Halton otherwise The Gallowes Field (10 acres), occupied by Henry Dowle in 1639.

recites: resulting from the negotiation for the marriage between Richard Franck and Ann Franck for securing their payment of £200 which he had received from her, and which by agreement between them should be repaid to the four children of Richard Baker which he had by Ann (Richard Baker, Mary Baker, John Baker and Abraham Baker) as part of the legacies given them by their father's will, he granted a 99-year lease to Ann's mother Mary Akehurst of Hastings, widow, and to Richard Baker's brother John Baker of Tunbridge, gent, to be void if the payments were made, 6 Sep 1639; death of John Baker under 21 several years ago; Richard Baker, Mary wife of Ralph Akehurst of The Cliffe and Abraham Baker have long since achieved the age of 21 but neither Richard Franck in his lifetime nor his executors have made the payments; liability of Ann Franck, as executrix of Richard Baker, for the legacies to her children; death of Mary Akehurst shortly after the indenture of 1639, whereby her interest passed to John Baker late of Tunbridge by survivorship in trust for Ann Franck; Ann Franck has paid the legacies and is entitled to be repaid; assignment of the property by John Baker to John James of Dallington, yeoman, and Henry Cruttenden of Burwash, yeoman (since deceased) in trust for Ann Franck, 25 Oct 1655; assignment by Francis Franck of Hastings, gent (now deceased), son and heir of Richard Franck of Hastings, clerk, with his mother Ann Franck of Cliffe near Lewes, widow, late wife of Richard Franck and previously wife of Richard Baker of Hastings, to John James of Dallington, yeoman, in trust for Ann Franck, 26 Apr 1666; assignment by John James of Dallington, yeoman, to Thomas Snatt of London, haberdasher and Mary Akehurst of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow, in trust for Ann Franck of Lewes, widow, 16 Jun 1670; mortgage for £130 by Thomas Snatt of Hunton in Kent, gent and Mary Akehurst of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow, with Ann Franck of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow and executrix of Richard Baker of Hastings, to Ann Wenham of Laughton, 15 Mar 1690; £138 13s 4d now owing
Witnesses: Richard Isted, Samuel Isted

The document "**Release of the equity of redemption for £10 10s 0d**", dated 12 Jan 1722, provides some genealogical information about the Franck family with a link to Jamaica:[77]

> Thomas Reeds of Lewes, gardener, only son and heir of John Reeds of Eastbourne, gardener, deceased and his wife Ann (the only daughter of Richard Franck of Hastings, clerk, deceased and only sister of Francis Franck of Hastings, gent, deceased and only aunt of Richard Franck of Jamaica, gent, deceased, the only son of Francis Franck), to John Benbrigg of Boreham Street in Wartling, doctor in physic, only son of William Benbrigg deceased several years
> property as MIL 1/15/2
> recites: assignment, 1691 [MIL 1/15/2]; mortgage, 1669 [MIL 1/15/1]; marriage of John Benbrigg with (Mary) only daughter of Samuel Creed; possession of John Benbrigg for some years
> Witnesses: Robert Walter, John Collier

The life of daughter Mary Akehurst (nee Baker) is well documented as one of the early Quakers at Lewes.[78, 79]

Family Tree

[77] *Release of the equity of redemption for £10 10s 0d*, dated 12 Jan 1722, (ESRO: MIL 1/15/3)
[78] David Hitchin, "Quakers in Lewes: an informal history", 2nd Edition (2010).
[79] Colin Brent, "Pre-Georgian Lewes: c890-1714: the emergence of a county town", 1st Edition (2004).

See Tree 2. “John Akehurst and Anna Newington” in Chapter 2.

## 67. Will of Thomas Tiseherst of Battle, 1708

(TNA: PROB 11/509/75)
Made: 13 Jul 1708
Proved: 6 Jun 1709

In the name of God Amen I **Thomas Tiseherst** of Battell in the County of Sussex yeoman being in good health in body and of sound and perfect mind and memory (thanks be given to God therefore) doe this present Thirteenth Day of July in the Seventh year of the Raigne of our Soveraigne Lady Ann by the grace of God of Great Brittaine France and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith etc Anno Domini 1708 make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following (that is to say) In the first place I recommend my Soul into the hands of Allmighty God that gave it me and my body I leave to returne to the Earth from whence it came and to receive decent Buryall at the discretion of my Executor and Executrix herein after named And as touching the disposition of such Estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with in this world I doe dispose of the same as followeth Imprimis I give and bequeath unto **Thomas Tiseherst my Grandson** one feather Bed with the Stedle Covering Blanketts and all thereunto belonging now standing and being in the dwelling House of my **Son in Law Francis Tress** to be delivered unto my said Grandson at his age of 21 years by my Executor and Executrix herein after named Item I give and bequeath unto my said Grandson £20 of lawfull money of Great Brittaine to be paid unto him by my Executor and Executrix herein after named at his age of 21 years And in case it shall happen the said **Thomas Tiseherst** my Grandson shall happen to die before he shall attain the age of 21 years Then my Will and Meaning is and I doe hereby give and bequeath the aforesaid £20 unto and among the Children of the said **Francis Tress** by him begotten upon the body of **Mary** his now Wife and my onely Daughter equally to be divided between them to be paid unto them at their respective ages of 21 years by my Executor and Executrix herein after named Item I give and bequeath unto **Ann Tiseherst** my Grandaughter £100 of lawfull money of Great Brittaine to be paid unto her at her age of 21 years or day of Marriage which shall first happen by my Executor and Executrix herein after named And in case it shall soe happen the said **Ann Tiseherst** my Grandaughter shall happen to dye before she shall have attained the age of 21 years or be marryed Then my Will and Meaning and I doe hereby give and bequeath £40 parcell of the aforesaid £100 unto the said **Thomas Tiseherst** my Grandson to be paid him at his age of 21 years by my Executor and Executrix herein after named and the remaining Threescore pounds of the said £100 I give and bequeath unto and among all and every the Children of the said **Francis Tress** my Son in Law upon the body of **Mary my onely Daughter** and his now Wife lawfully begotten equally to be divided amongst them and to be paid unto them by my Executor and Executrix herein after named at their several and respective ages of 21 years Item I give and bequeath unto the said **Ann Tiseherst** my Grandaughter one feather Bed with the Stedle Covering Blanketts and all thereunto belonging now standing and being in the now dwelling House of the said **Francis Tress** my Son in Law to be Delivered unto her my said Grandaughter at her age of 21 years or day of Marriage which shall first happen by my Executor and Executrix herein after named Item I give and bequeath unto **Mary Tress** my Grandaughter £50 of lawfull money of Great Brittaine to be paid unto her at her age of 21 years or Day of Marriage which shall first happen by my Executor and Executrix herein after named All the Rest and Residue of my Goods Chattells Bonds Bills Mortgages and personall Estate whatsoever and wheresoever to be found within the Kingdome of Great Brittaine and not herein before given and bequeathed (my Debts Legacies Funerall Expences and Probate of this my Will being first paid and discharged) I give and bequeath unto the said **Francis Tress and Mary** his Wife my said Daughter whom I doe hereby

make and ordain Executor and Executrix of this my last Will and Testament This is alsoe the last Will and Testament of me the aforesaid **Thomas Tiseherst** the Testator made published and declared the day and year aforesaid touching the disposition of all and every my Messuages Lands Tenements and Hereditaments herein after mentioned with their and every of their appurtenances (that is to say) First I give and devise unto my **Grandson Thomas Tiseherst** (if he live to attaine his full age of 21 years and not otherwise) All that my Messuage or Tenement Barne Stable Stall and other the outhouses and Buildings Gardens Orchards Backsides Closes thereunto belonging And all those severall peeces or parcells of Land Meadow Pasture Woodground or Shaw to the said Messuage alsoe belonging commonly called or knowne by the name of **Sinderford** or by whatsoever other name or names the same or any part or parcel thereof are or is called or knowne by with their and every of their appurtenances scituate lyeing and being in Herstmonceux in the said County of Sussex containing by Estimation Thirty acres whether of the same there be more or less and now or late in the tenure or occupation of **John Akherst** or his Assignes To have and to Hold the said Messuage Lands and premises with their and every of their appurtenances together with the Revertion and Revertions thereof unto the said **Thomas Tiseherst** my Grandson his Heirs and Assignes for ever (if the said **Thomas Tiseherst** my Grandson live to attaine his full age of 21 years) but in case the said **Thomas TIseherst** my Grandson shall happen to dye before he shall attaine his full age of 21 years Then I give and devise the aforesaid Messuage or Tenement Barne Lands Tenements and premises with their and every of their appurtenances in Herstmonceux aforesaid scituate lyeing and being in the tenure or occupation of the said **John Akherst** the younger and containing by Estimation Thirty acres unto my Grandson **Francis Tress son of Francis Tress** my Son in Law aforesaid To have and to Hold the aforesaid Messuage or Tenement Barne Lands Tenements and Premises with their and every of their appurtenances unto the said **Francis Tress** my Grandson and his Heirs and Assignes for Ever upon this Condition that my said Grandson **Francis Tress** his Heirs Executors Administrators or Assignes shall well and truely pay or cause to be paid unto the said **Ann Tiseherst** my Grandaughter £40 of lawfull money of Great Brittaine out of the said Lands and Tenements aforesaid to be paid unto her at her age of 21 years or day of Marriage which shall first happen by my said Grandson **Francis Tress** (if he come to Enjoy the aforesaid Messuage Lands and premises) and then I charge the aforesaid Messuage Lands and premises with the payment of the said £40 as aforesaid And I doe hereby nominate and appoint the said **Francis Tress** my Son in Law to receive the Rents and profitts of the aforesaid Messuage Lands and Tenements for the use of my said Grandson **Thomas Tiseherst** untill he shall attaine his full age of 21 years and then be accountable unto my said Grandson **Thomas Tiseherst** for the Rents and Profitts thereof And my Will is that the said **Francis Tress** my Son in Law shall have all reasonable Charges and Expences allowed him which he shall at any time be at in Receiveing the aforesaid Rents And I doe hereby revoke all other Wills by me heretofore made In Witness whereof I the said **Thomas Tiseherst** the Testator have to every Sheet hereof being Three in number set my hand and to the last of them my hand and Seale in the presence of those whose names are hereunder written **Thomas Tiseherst his marke** Signed Sealed published and declared to be the last Will and Testament of the said **Thomas Tiseherst** the Testator in the presence of those whose names are hereunder written **John Durrant Joyce Rogers Sam: Durrant**

6th June 1709
Probatum fuit huiusmodi Testamentum apud London coram venerabili et egregio viro Domino Richardo Raines Milite Legum Doctore Curia Prerogativa Cantuariensis Magistro Custode sive Commissario legitime constituto Sexto die mensis Junii Anno Domini Millesimo

Septingentesimo Nono Juramentis **Francisci Tress** et **Maria Tress** Executorum in dicto testamento nominat Quibus commissa fuit Administracio omnium et singulorum bonorum jurium et creditorum dicti defuncti de bene et fideliter Administrando eadem Ad Sancta Dei Evangelia vigore Commissionis Jurat
*(Transcribed by Jeremy Stroud January 2017)*

**Notes:**

People
Thomas Tiseherst [Ticehurst], yeoman, testator
Thomas Ticehurst, grandson
Francis Tress, son-in-law, executor
Mary Tress, daughter, wife of Francis Tress, executrix
Mary Tress, granddaughter
Francis Tress, grandson
Ann Ticehurst, granddaughter
John Akehurst the younger, tenant
John Durrant, witness
Joyce Rogers, witness
Sam Durrant, witness

Places
Battle
Herstmonceux
Sinderford

Relevant Events
Thomas Tiseherst's burial not found.
Mary Tisehurst married Francis Tress on 28 Apr 1698 [Salehurst, Sussex or St James Westminster, London]
Thomas Tyhurst buried 9 May 1712 at Battle (possibly the grandson?).

## 68. Will of Richard Francke of Hastings, 1648

(TNA: PROB 11/204/622)
Made: 19 Mar 1646
Proved: 28 Jun 1648

[Abstract only]
Dated 19th March 1646
Testator: Richard Francke of Hastings, Sussex. Clerk.

- All goods and personal estate to Francis Crompe of Battle gent., who is to be sole executor.
- Any surplus to Anne (testator's daughter) at the age of 21 or day of marriage, except his gold ring which goes to his executor.
- Messuage and lands (28 acres by estimation) in Ashburnham, Sussex, now occupied by John Waters or his assigns, to daughter Anne and her heirs forever.
- Reversion and remainder of certain lands & tenements in Ashburnham after the death of Robert Rabbett (testator's brother-in-law) plus all lands and tenements in Hastings to son Francis and his heirs forever
- Rents etc. from said properties to go to his executor for the maintenance and education of Anne and Francis until age 21
- All lands & tenements in Guestling and Ore, Sussex, upon trust to his executor to be sold.
- Money to pay his debts (inc. one to his executor), to put his son to a trade and to place his daughter 'in some fit course of life'. Residue to his son at age 21.

Witnesses: Martin Crompe; Salmon Boxer; John Pur{?}ile.

Probate by definitive Sentence 28th June 1648 to Francis Cr{u}mpe, executor.
[Another date – July 1647 – is mentioned but I'm not sure if this was a previous probate or not. There is then something about Anne Francke and the word 'revocat'. The probate is followed by the text of the Sentence.]
Case heard before Sir Nathaniel Brent
In the matter of the revocation of the ??? [and] probate of the will of Richard Francke formerly of Gastling but who died at Ashburnham in Sussex, clerk, deceased
Francis Crumpe [of the one part] and Anna Francke relict of the said deceased of the other part
Anna Francke's claims found to be 'lacking in truth' [though it doesn't seem to specify what the claims were]
Definitive sentence confirms validity of will and probate, June 1648.
*(Abstract by Claire Wickens 30 Sep 2018)*

## NOTES:

People
Richard Francke, clerk, testator
Anne Francke, daughter
Francis Francke, son
Anne Francke, wife
Francis Crompe
John Waters
Robert Rabbett
Martin Crompe
Salmon Boxer

John Pur{?}ile

Places
Hastings
Battle
Ashburnham
Guestling
Ore

Relevant Events
Richard Francke's burial not found.

Other
The document "**Release of the equity of redemption for £10 10s 0d**", dated 12 Jan 1722, provides some genealogical information about the Franck family with a link to Jamaica:[80]

> Thomas Reeds of Lewes, gardener, only son and heir of John Reeds of Eastbourne, gardener, deceased and his wife Ann (the only daughter of Richard Franck of Hastings, clerk, deceased and only sister of Francis Franck of Hastings, gent, deceased and only aunt of Richard Franck of Jamaica, gent, deceased, the only son of Francis Franck), to John Benbrigg of Boreham Street in Wartling, doctor in physic, only son of William Benbrigg deceased several years
> property as MIL 1/15/2
> recites: assignment, 1691 [MIL 1/15/2]; mortgage, 1669 [MIL 1/15/1]; marriage of John Benbrigg with (Mary) only daughter of Samuel Creed; possession of John Benbrigg for some years
> Witnesses: Robert Walter, John Collier

The document "**Assignment of mortgage for £138 13s 4d**", dated 17 Aug 1691, also provides important background information:[81]

> Ann Wenham of Laughton, widow, to William Benbrigg of Boreham Street in Wartling, gent
> 1. The Gulphes and The Halton (18 acres) with a barn, occupied by Richard Atherall in 1639.
> 2. The Halton otherwise The Gallowes Field (10 acres), occupied by Henry Dowle in 1639.
>
> recites: resulting from the negotiation for the marriage between Richard Franck and Ann Franck for securing their payment of £200 which he had received from her, and which by agreement between them should be repaid to the four children of Richard Baker which he had by Ann (Richard Baker, Mary Baker, John Baker and Abraham Baker) as part of the legacies given them by their father's will, he granted a 99-year lease to Ann's mother Mary Akehurst of Hastings, widow, and to Richard Baker's brother John Baker of Tunbridge, gent, to be void if the payments were made, 6 Sep 1639; death of John Baker under 21 several years ago; Richard Baker, Mary wife of Ralph Akehurst of The Cliffe and Abraham Baker have long since achieved the age of 21 but neither Richard Franck in his lifetime nor his executors have made the payments; liability of Ann Franck, as executrix of Richard Baker, for the legacies to her children; death of Mary Akehurst shortly after the indenture of 1639, whereby her interest passed to John Baker late of Tunbridge by survivorship in trust for Ann Franck; Ann Franck has paid the legacies and

[80] *Release of the equity of redemption for £10 10s 0d*, dated 12 Jan 1722, (ESRO: MIL 1/15/3)
[81] *Assignment of mortgage for £138 13s 4d*, dated 17 Aug 1691, (ESRO: MIL 1/15/2)

is entitled to be repaid; assignment of the property by John Baker to John James of Dallington, yeoman, and Henry Cruttenden of Burwash, yeoman (since deceased) in trust for Ann Franck, 25 Oct 1655; assignment by Francis Franck of Hastings, gent (now deceased), son and heir of Richard Franck of Hastings, clerk, with his mother Ann Franck of Cliffe near Lewes, widow, late wife of Richard Franck and previously wife of Richard Baker of Hastings, to John James of Dallington, yeoman, in trust for Ann Franck, 26 Apr 1666; assignment by John James of Dallington, yeoman, to Thomas Snatt of London, haberdasher and Mary Akehurst of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow, in trust for Ann Franck of Lewes, widow, 16 Jun 1670; mortgage for £130 by Thomas Snatt of Hunton in Kent, gent and Mary Akehurst of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow, with Ann Franck of the Cliffe near Lewes, widow and executrix of Richard Baker of Hastings, to Ann Wenham of Laughton, 15 Mar 1690; £138 13s 4d now owing
Witnesses: Richard Isted, Samuel Isted

Family Tree
See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" in Chapter 2.

## 69. Will of Deborah Winter of Hastings, 1679/80

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/35/192)
Made: 15 November 1679
Proved: 26 January 1679/80

In the name of God Amen the Fifteenth day of November Anno Dni One thousand six hundred seaventy and nine I **Deborah Winter** of the Towne and Port of Hasting in the County of Sussex widdow sick in // Body But of sound and pfect mind and Memory I blesse God for it doe make and ordaine this my last Will and Testament in writeing in manner and forme following First and principally I commend my soule to Allmighty God my Creator assuredly expecting the Remission of all my sinns and life everlasting through the Passion Merritts and Satisfaction of my Only Savior and Redeemer Christ Jesus And my Body to Christian buryall at the discretion of my Executor herein after named Item I give to the poore people of the pish of St Clement of Hasting aforesaid where I now dwell fower shillings of lawfull English money to be distributed unto them at the discretion of my said Executor within two months next after my decease Item I give and bequeath unto my sonne **John Winter** tenn shillings To my sonne **Thomas Winter** ten shillings To my daughter **Mary** the wife of **Thomas Symonds** one shilling To my daughter **Deborah** five shillings and my two silver Bodkins and my Broad Boxe with all with all my wearing Cloathes Linnen and woollen therein being To be paid and delivered unto them severally within six monthes next after my decease And lastly I hereby make and ordaine my Sonne **James Winter** sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament To whom I likewise give and bequeath all the rest of my goods and Chattells whatsoever here unbequeathed my debts legacies and funerall expences first satisyed and paid And these p[rese]nts dated the day and yeare first above written I hereby declare to be my very last Will and Testament And in full Testimony thereof I have also hereunto sett my hand and Seale **Deborah Winter** her marke In the pnce of these credible Witnesses Viz Thomas Winter elder Stephen Thomsett his marke William Blaker

Probate: 26th January 1679 [1680] to James Winter, executor.
*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 5th October 2018)*

### NOTES:

People
Deborah Winter, widow, testator
John Winter, son
Thomas Winter, son
Mary Symonds, wife of Thomas Symonds
Deborah Winter, daughter
James Winter, son, executor

Places
Hastings

Relevant Events
Deborah Winter buried 30 Nov 1679 at Hastings St Clement, "widow".
Deborah Arres [probably an incorrectly transcribed "Acres" for Akehurst] married John Winter on 3 Sep 1637 at Hastings St Clement. (SFHG marriage index).
John Winter buried 14 Aug 1675 at Hastings st Clement, "Mr.". He is noted as "Mr." and "curate" on some of the children's baptisms.
The daughter Deborah Winter married Philip Griffiths on 16 Feb 1688 at Hastings St Clement. They obtained a marriage licence on 15 Feb 1688, "both of Hastings". (Archdeaconry of Lewes).

The son James Winter married Margaret Goreham on 14 Dec 1686 at Guestling (Margaret of Hastings).
(SFHG indexes)

Family Tree
See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" in Chapter 2.

## 70. Reply of Ralphe Akehurst to the Bill of Complaint of Anne Franck, 1657

(TNA: C 6/135/84)
Date: 21 May 1657

[Annotation top left corner] Sworne the 21{st} day of May 1657 at Lewes in the Countye of Sussex before mee Ri Boughton

The Answere of **Ralphe Akehurst** defend[an]t to the Bill of Compl[ain]t of **Anne Franck** widdowe Complaynant

The said defendt savinge and reservinge to himselfe nowe & at all tymes hereafter all benefitt and advantage of Excepcons unto the uncertaintyes insufficiencies and manifest impfeccons in the said Bill of Complte[Complaint] conteined for Answere thereunto or to soe muche thereof as in anywise is materiall for him this defendt to make Answere unto he saith That he doth not knowe That **Richard Baker** in the Complte[Complainant's] Bill named the late deceased husband of the sd[said] Complte[Complainant] did p[ro]mise or undertake to anie of the friendes of the sd Complte[Complainant] or any other pson whatsoev[er] to make anie such Provision by way of Joynture of the value of Thirtye poundes p[er] An[num] or of anie other value for the Complte[Complainant] Livelihood or maintenance in case she should survive the sd **Richard Baker**, or that the sd **Richard Baker** delayed from time to time in his life tyme to settle & convey the same accordingly or that the sd **Richard Baker** about the time of his death or at any other tymes declared that he would settle upon the Complt[Complainant's] landes worth Twentie poundes p Ann[per annum] & leave her Twoe hundred poundes by his Will in lieu of the said other Tenn poundes p Ann as in & by the sd will is s{??}mised But this defend[defendant] saith That he beleeveth it to be true That the sd **Richard Baker** was in his life tyme & at the time of his death seized in fee simple to him & his heires for ev[er] of & in the Messuages landes & Ten[emen]ts in the Bill menc[i]o[n]ed being of the yearely value of Thirtie poundes p Ann or theraboutes, as this deft[defendant] verily beleeveth ov[er] & above all charges & Reprizes And that the sd **Richard Baker** at about the tyme in the Bill set forth made his last Will & Testamt in writinge & therin devised the same landes & Ten[emen]ts or the greatest pte[part] therof to the sd Complt[Complainant] for her life & alsoe further gave & devised the sev[er]all other legacies in the Bill menc[i]o[n]ed to the sev[er]all psons therin named as alsoe to his daughter **Marie** this defts[defendant's] wife being then an Infant the sume of Twoe hundred and fiftie poundes to be paid unto her at her age of One and twentie yeares or day of marriage wch should first happen as in and by the sd Bill is set forth And that the sd **Richard** the shortlye after dyed possessed of a psonall estate wch according to the Inventory & Appraisem[en]t made therof did amount unto the sume of One thousand one hundred Fiftie & twoe poundes and Eighteene shillings as this deft[defendant] hath bynn credibly informed And this deft[defendant] verily beleeveth that the sd psonall estate was of a farr greater value then was set downe in the sd Inventory But this deft[defendant] doth not knowe whether the devise of the forsd landes to the sd Complt[complainant] was in pursuance of anie former contracte or p[ro]mise or that the sd **Richard Baker** did ev[er] declare suppose or Compute that the sd Complt[Complainant] should have an Overplus of Twoe hundred poundes of his psonall estate ov[er] & aboe his debts & legacyes or anie sume at all to this deftes knowledge yet notwithstandinge this deft[defendant] verily beleeves that the sd Complt[Complainant] hath Two hundred poundes or theraboutes of her husbandes psonall estate remainge in her handes to her own use ov[er] & above what debts & legacies of her sd husband shee either hath paid or ev[er] was chargeable to paye by the sd Will And this deft[defendant] further saith That he beleeveth it to be true that the sd Complte[Complainant] was named executrix in the said Will and that shee hath proved the same & took upon her the execucon therof and poss[ess]ed herselfe of of all the foresd psonall estate

But this deft[defendant] absolutely denyeth That the sd Complt[Complainant] hath bynn alwayes ready to pay all the foresaid legacyes to all the sev[er]all legatees therin named for that the sd legacye soe as aforsd given by the sd **Richard Baker** to this deftes wife is to this day unpaid notwthstandinge the same hath bynn due & payable above Three yeares since & notwthstandinge this deft[defendant] hath often tymes in friendly mann[er] requested the same of the sd Complte[Complainant] And this deft[defendant] further saith that he hath heard & believes it to be true that the sd **Richard Baker** in his life time did lend unto **James Rootes** in the Bill named about the time likewise therin menconed sixe hundred poundes or theraboutes and for the securing therof That he the sd **James Rootes** did Mortgage unto the sd **Richard Baker** such landes & Ten[emen]ts as in the sd Bill are menconed the same beinge as this deft[defendant] verily beleeveth very good security for the forsd sixe hundred poundes And this deft[defendant] further saith That he beleeveth it to be true That the sd **Richard Baker** by his forsd Will did direct & appoint the Complt[Complainant] to keepe & mainteyne his sd Children shee the sd Complt[Complainant] being their owne mother untill the respective times of the paym[en]t of the foresaid legacyes unto them wch as this deft[defendant] by the favor of this Hon[oura]ble Court humbly conceives was most reasonable that she should doe she the sd Complt[Complainant] having in the meane time the Interest & advantage of all the foresd legacyes but whether the sd **Richard Baker** did compute that the same might soe be done wth an overplus of Twoe hundred poundes to remaine in the Compltes handes or that the moneyes due upon the mortgage would easily wthout trouble be p[ro]cured in, this deft[defendant] cannot set forth nor doth this deft[defendant] knowe That the sd **James Rootes** did delay & refuse to pay in the foresaid mortgage money or that the Complt[Complainant] was put to a long & tedious suite in this C[our]t to recov[er] the sd mortgage money or did not recov[er] the same untill the last Hillary Terme or that the sd Complt[Complainant] laid out in Recov[er]ye therof Twoe hundred poundes or anie considerable sume as is suggested by the sd Bill of Complt[Complaint] But this deft[defendant] is very much induced to beleeve the contrarye for that the sd **James Rootes** hath informed this defendt That he was alwayes willinge and readye paye in the foresaid Mortgage money w[it]h interest to the Complt[Complainant] to avoide trouble and charge on both sides and that the sd Complte[Complainant] and **James Rootes** had sev[er]all meetinges to that end and purpose and in Case the sd Complte[Complainant] did not receive the same untill of late as in the sd Bill is set forth the same was the fault of the sd Complte[Complainant] as this defendt supposeth For that this deft[defendant] offered to the sd Complt[Complainant] to pay in all the mortgage money in case the same might be conveyed to him And this deft[defendant] further saith That the sd Complte[Complainant], as this deft[defendant] verily beleeveth did from time to time receive the interest for the sd moneyes lent upon the sd mortgage according as the same became due and payable & in case anie suite therupon was in this C[our]t, this deft[defendant] beleeveth the same was done by consent only to have the direccon of this C[our]t, the necessary charges & expences of suite in the recov[er]ing therof could not neare amount unto the sume as in the sd Bill ptended to be disbursed as this deft[defendant] hath bynn informed by who are very able practizeds in the lawes but what the charge were this deft[defendant] knoweth not, nor doth he thinke by the favor of this this Honble C[our]t that he is lyable or chargable to beare or defray any pte therof for that the sd Complt[Complainant] by her owne shewinge in the sd Bill of Complte[Complaint] confesseth she hath recov[er]ed the same And this deft[defendant] further saith That he beleiveth it to be true that the sd Complte[Complainant] hath paid unto **Richard Baker** one of the Legatees in the sd Will his legacye of Twoe hundred poundes wthout anie deduccon for or defalcacon for educacon or charges of suite or for or by reason of any debtes of the sd Testator wch deft[defendant] beleeveth were none at all or else verye small and inconsiderable And this defendt further confesseth it to be true that about the time in the sd Bill of Complte[Complaint] expressed this defendt did take to wife **Mary** the sd Compltes[Complainant's] daughter, the sd Complte[Complainant] before the sd Marrriage tooke effect havinge absolutely pmised to this defendt that his wifes porcon should amount nearer to Five hundred poundes then to Fower

hundred poundes upon wch pmise the sd marriage tooke effect And this deft[defendant] did then pmise upon receipt of that money to make his sd wife a Joynture of one Messuage wherin this deft[defendant] now liveth & certain meadow ground thereunto belonginge being of the yearely of Twentie poundes or therabouts, and to give his owne Bond to leave his saide wife worth Fower hundred poundes in psonall estate in case she should survive him but this deft[defendant] absolutely denyeth That he did ev[er] make any such pmise as to double his wifes porcon or deposite the same in anie of her friendes handes to be imployed as by the sd Bill is ptended or that he this deft[defendant] made any other pmise before marriage to this defts remembrance save only what is before expressed, but this deft[defendant] confesseth that after the sd marriage had & solempnized this deft[defendant] havinge occasion to use monyes, he this deft[defendant] being a Tradesman & then in hopes of some good bargain if could have p[ro]cured readie money did make his offer to the Complte[Complainant] That if she would psentlye pforme her sd pmise of makinge his wifes porcon to be [word erased] to be Five hundred poundes and then paye the same to him, he this defendt would make her a psent Joynture of Fortie poundes p Ann in landes And this defendt further saith That he beleeveth that the sd Complte[Complainant] over & above her Joynture landes, hath received yearelye as Interest of her sd Childrens porcons Fortie poundes wth wch as this defendt conceives shee might verye well keepe & mainteyne her said Children And this defendt cofesseth that true it is he hath (and by the favor of this Honble C[our]t he humbly conceiveth it is lawfull for him to doe) doth demannd the whole legacye given to his said wife wthout allowinge any abatement whatsoever for that the same ought above three yeares since to have bynn paid wthout any abatement at all And that he this defendt havinge nev[er] made anye such contract and agreem[en]t as by the said Bill is ptended doth refuse to consent to the depositinge of his wifes {porcon} in anie psones handes whatsoev[er] For that this defendt desires to make use of the sd monyes in the way of his Trade and M{er}chandizing wherin he hath bynn brought up and wherby he hopes by the blessinge of god upon his endeav[ou]rs to make a better imp[ro]vem[en]t therof then in anye other waye And this defendt absolutely denyeth That he hath ever made anye other pmises concerninge settleing of a Joynture upon his wife or disposicon of the porcon other then what is herin before expressed or that or that he hath received of the said Complte[Complainant] or anye other pson anye pte of the sd porcon or more then seaven poundes interest for the same without that that anye other matter thinge or circumstance in the sd Bill of Complte[Complaint] contained materiall to charge this defendt wth{all} or effectuall by him to be Answered unto, and not herein and hereby sufficiently answered confessed or avoided tran_sed or denyed, is true in such sort, manner & forme as herein before is expressed [hole in document] All wch matters & things this defendt is and will be readye to averre iustifie mainteyne and prove as this Honble C[our]t shall Award and therfore humbly prays to be hence dismissed wth his reasonable Costs and Charges in this behalfe most wrongfullye had & sustained

[Signature, bottom right corner] **Will Cawley**

*(Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 25th October 2018)*

**NOTES:**

People

Ralphe Akehurst
Anne Francke
Richard Baker
James Rootes
Marie[Mary] Akehurst

Places
Lewes

Other
See Will of Richard Baker of Hastings, 1638 (Chapter 4).
See Will of Richard Francke of Hastings, 1648 (Chapter 4).
See Will of Raphe Akehurst of Lewes, 1666 (Chapter 3).

Family Tree
See Tree 2. "John Akehurst and Anna Newington" in Chapter 2.

## 71. Will of Samuel Newington of Burwash, 1619/20

(TNA: PROB 11/135)
Made: 20 Jan 1618/19
Proved: 3 Feb 1619/20

In the name of God Amen The twentieth daye of January 1618 I **Samuell Newington** of Burwash in the County of Sussex yeoman beinge in perfect health and memory God be Praysed for it doe ordaine & make this my last will and testament in manner and forme followinge First I bequeath my soul into the handes of Almighty god what gave it not anie way doubting but firmly beleevinge that onelie through the meritts of my Savior Jesus Christe all my sinnes are pardoned and forgiven mee Nexte I bequeathe my bodye unto the Earth from whence it was taken untill the Resurrecion of the Just at which tyme onelie by virtue of my Redeemers Resurrecion I shall Rise unto eternall life Item I give unto the poore of the parishe where I shalbe buried Forty shillings to be paide by Myne Executor Item I give unto **Anne** my Wieffe Fowerscore pounds in money the which Fowerscore pounds in money I give her in consideracion and liewe of her Joynture annuity thirds Dower rents righte title or claymes shee maye or can have or clayme unto any landes howses barnes or Tenements I have or was possest of before or since our daye of marriage and in and upon condicion that she doe seal a good and sufficient release in the lawe unto myne heire and executor of all her right title rent jointure annuity thirds Dower or clayme shee may or canne have or claime into anie my said landes or any wayes granted by mee under my hand and seale All which to be performed by her within three monethes after my decease att the which sealinge and deliveringe of her release my will is she shall have this my legacie as aforesaid Provided always and uppon condicion that if the saide **Anne** my Wieffe refuse or doe not excepte of this my legacie uppon these Condicions aforesaid and doe not performe those condicions aforesaid according to the true meaninge of them That then I will and bequeath unto her Tenn shillings to be paid unto her within three monethes and one daye after my decease by myne Executor as a full and whole legacie to her given by me in this my last will and testament All the rest of my landes goodes leases mortgages bills bonds debts chattels reall and personall whatsoever my debts and legacies beinge paid I will and bequeath unto **Anne my daughter** to be delivered unto her by myne Executor at her age of one and twenty yeares or within three monethes of her daye of marriage which shall first happen in suche manner and forme as shalbe hereafter expressed Provided alwayes that if ir happen my wife may be with child at my decease That then if it be a man child my will is hee shall have all the legacies given as aforesaid unto **Anne** my daughter except one hundreth pounds which hundreth pounds I give unto **Anne** my daughter as a full legacie but if it bee a woman child That then it shalbe equally divided by myne Executor and overseers according to their discrecions at their severall ages as aforesaid And if one dye the other to be heire unto his or her brother or sister And if it shall happen my child or children to dye all without heires of their bodie That then I will all my landes and goods as aforesaid to be equally divided by myne Executor and Overseers between my five sisters and my brother **Jabes** sonne **Samuell Newington** and their heires of their bodyes Item I ordaine and make my kinsman **Zabulon Newington** of Tishurst Executor of this my last will and testament in whose handes my will is All my landes and goodes shalbee kepte intreatinge him to purchase and buy soe much land as it will reach or amounte unto the use of my heires or heires to come unto them at their severall ages as aforesayde and the profits to bringe her or them uppe and the overplus to give an Accompte at their severall ages as aforesayde allowinge him Two shillings a daye for his imployment about it for every daye he imployethe himselfe aboute this my will Item I make my kinsman **Frauncis Norman** of Salhurst and my kinsman **Samuell Newington** of Kingston Bousey Overseers of this my last will and testament allowinge them Eighteene pence apiece eche daye soe often as they shalbe mployed about this my will Item if it shall happen any controversie to arise about this my will and testament That then my will is **Thomas Newington** of Ripe **Joseph Newington** of

Tyshurst my uncles and my Overseers or soe many of theme as shall be alive at any controversie soe arisinge shall take the sayde controversie and devide and end it accordinge to their discrecions Provided always and upon Condicion that what person or persons soever I have given any legacie or legacies in this my last will and testament that person or persons being of age and refusinge to stande to the awarde of these my friends aforenamed or soe many of them as shalbe alive my will is that person or persons soe refusinge shall have Twelve pence as a full legacie in this my last will and Testament any thinge therein contayned in any wise to the contrary notwithstandinge In witnesse whereof I have heareunto set my hande and selae the daye and yeare abovewritten **Samuell Newington** Witnesses to these **Nicholas Busse** his marke **Returne Tyeherst** his marke

Memorandum that in or aboute the Eleaventh day of December Anno Domini 1619 the sayde **Samuell Newington** beinge of perfect mynde and memory with an intent to add further to his Testament before by him made and declared did speake and utter these wordes followinge or the like in effect vizt Whereas I am bounde in a bond of a hundred pounds with condicion to make **Ann** my Wieffe an Annuity of Five markes yearely to be payde unto her within three monethes next and immediately following after the death of **John Cruttenden** Father of the said **Anne** Nowe my will and mynde is that in respect of her good carriage of mee in this my sicknes that the said **Anne** my wife shall in liewe of her said Five marks have Fower poundes a yeare to be paide to her yearly duringe her lyfe The first payment to beginne immediatlie after the decease of her sayd Father And alsoe I give and will to my sayde wieffe one Bed and all things belongigne thereto which I thinke will be worth Tenne pounds Witnesses heareunto **William Muttrell** **Frauncis Lucas** and **Jone Muttrell** with others

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum unacum Codicillo eiusdem annext apud London coram Magistro **Arthuro Ducke** legum Doctore Surrogato venerabilis viri Domini **Johannis Benet** militis legum etiam Doctoris Curie Prerogative Cantuarensis Magistri Custodis sive Commissario legitime constituto Tertio die mensis Februarii Anno Domini iuxta Computaceonem ecclesie Anglicane Millesimo Sexcentesimo Decimo nono Juramento **Zabulon Newington** Executoris in eodem testamento nominat Cui commissa fuit Administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum Jurium et Creditiorum dicti defuncti de bene et fideliter administrando eadem ad Sancta Dei Evangelia Jurat

*(Transcribed by Rosie Ansell, March 2015)*

**NOTES:**

People

Samuel Newington, yeoman, testator
Anne Newington, wife
Anne Newington, daughter
Jabez Newington, brother
Samuel Newington, son of Jabez Newington
Samuel Newington, kinsman
Zabulon Newington, kinsman
Francis Norman, kinsman
Thomas Newington, uncle
Joseph Newington, uncle
John Cruttenden, father-in-law
William Muttrell, witness
Francis Lucas, witness
Jone Muttrell, witness

Places
Burwash
Salehurst
Kingston by Sea
Ripe
Ticehurst

Relevant Events

Samuel Newington died 11 Dec 1619. (Sussex Wills and Administrations in the District Probate Registry at Lewes. Book A 28. 1602-1640. Text: Newington, Samuel, Burwash, yeoman: 11 Dec 1619 , 03 Feb 1619 103)

He was buried 21 Dec 1619 at Salehurst St Mary, Sussex. (SFHG Burial Index)

Samuel Newington bap. 10 Jan 1607/08 at Salehurst St Mary, son of Jabez Newington.
Samuel Newington sen. buried 18 Oct 1612 at Salehurst St Mary.

The Newington Family Tee:
(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

**Thomas Newington,** b. c1520, d. 1580 at Salehurst, pro. 1581
+ **Ann (--?--),** b. c1525, m. c1545
- **Morgan Newington,** b. c1545, d. 1610 at Kingston by Sea, pro. 1610
  + **Elizabeth (--?--),** m. c1575, d. 1622 at Kingston by Sea, pro. 1622
    - **John Newington,** bap. 1576 at Salehurst, d. 1611 at Kingston by Sea
    - **Thomas Newington,** b. c1578, d. 1651 at Bishopstone
      + **Fearnot Hepden,** bap. 1591 at Burwash, m. 1619 at Burwash, d. 1628 at Bishopstone
        - **Elizabeth Newington,** bap. 1620 at Kingston by Sea
          + **William Elphick,** m. 1640 at Bishopstone
        - **Constance Newington,** bap. 1622 at Upper Beeding
          + **Richard Page,** m. 1639 at Bishopstone
        - **Samuel Newington,** bap. 1625 at Upper Beeding, d. 1665 at Southease
          + **Ann Hilder,** m. 1647 at Westham
            - **Thomas Newington,** bap. 1648 at Bishopstone
            - **Samuel Newington,** bap. 1649 at Bishopstone, d. 1649 at Bishopstone
            - **Ann Newington,** b. 1650 at Bishopstone
            - **Judith Newington,** bap. 1653 at Bishopstone
            - **Joseph Newington,** bap. 1656 at Bishopstone
            - **Fearnot Newington,** bap. 1662 at Bishopstone, d. 1662 at Bishopstone
            - **Edward Newington,** bap. 1664 at Bishopstone, d. 1665 at Southease
        - **Thomas Newington,** bap. 1627 at Upper Beeding, d. 1627 at Upper Beeding
        - **John Newington,** bap. 1627 at Upper Beeding, d. 1663 at Bishopstone
      + **Alice Wood,** m. 1629 at Bishopstone, d. 1655 at Bishopstone
    - **James Newington,** b. c1581, d. 1627 at Kingston by Sea, pro. 1627
      + **Phoebe Mylse,** m. 1601 at Kingston by Sea, d. 1632 at Kingston by Sea
        - **Mary Newington,** bap. 1602 at Kingston by Sea
          + **William Pilbeame,** m. 1625 at Kingston by Sea
        - **Elizabeth Newington,** bap. 1607 at Southwick
        - **John Newington,** bap. 1609 at Bignor

+ **Sarah Cooke,** m. 1632 at Brighton
- **Thomas Newington,** bap. 1634 at Southwick
- **Ann Newington,** bap. 1637 at Southwick
- **John Newington,** bap. 1640 at Southwick

- **Elizabeth Newington,** bap. 1615 at Felpham
- **Anne Newington,** bap. 1617 at Felpham
- **Sarah Newington,** bap. 1619 at Felpham

- **Samuel Newington,** bap. 1584 at Salehurst, d. c1660, pro. 1661

+ **Elizabeth Bodle,** m. 1608 at Playden, d. before 1613
+ **Hopestill Hepden,** bap. 1589 at Burwash, m. 1613 at Burwash, d. 1627 at Kingston by Sea
- **Thomas Newington,** bap. 1614 at Kingston by Sea
+ **Ann Gratwick,** m. 1635 at Coombes
- **Samuel Newington,** bap. 1636 at Kingston by Sea, d. 1637 at Kingston by Sea
- **Samuel Newington,** bap. 1641 at Coombes, d. 1645 at Kingston by Sea

+ **Elizabeth (--?--),** m. c1647
- **Samuel Newington,** bap. 1648 at Kingston by Sea
- **Joseph Newington,** bap. 1650 at Kingston by Sea
- **Elizabeth Newington,** bap. 1651 at Kingston by Sea
- **Goddard Newington,** bap. 1654 at Kingston by Sea, d. 1656 at Kingston by Sea
- **Goddard Newington,** bap. 1656 at Kingston by Sea
- **Mary Newington,** b. 1658 at Kingston by Sea

- **Goddard Newington,** bap. 1615 at Kingston by Sea, d. 1678 at Lewes, pro. 1678

- **Elizabeth Newington,** bap. 1618 at Kingston by Sea
+ **John Brewer,** m. 1640 at Kingston by Sea
- **Samuel Brewer,** bap. 1640 at Kingston by Sea
- **Elizabeth Brewer,** bap. 1643 at Hurstpierpoint, d. 1669 at Laughton
+ **Thomas Stedwell,** m. 1663 at Pyecombe
- **Elizabeth Stedwell,** bap. 1664 at Laughton
- **Mary Stedwell,** bap. 1666 at Laughton
- **Ann Stedwell,** bap. 1668 at Laughton

- **Samuel Newington,** bap. 1620 at Kingston by Sea
- **Susanna Newington,** bap. 1621 at Kingston by Sea, d. 1622 at Kingston by Sea
- **William Newington,** bap. 1623 at Kingston by Sea, d. 1623 at Kingston by Sea
- **Sarah Newington,** bap. 1624 at Kingston by Sea
- **Anne Newington,** bap. 1625 at Kingston by Sea, d. 1625 at Kingston by Sea
- **Susanna Newington,** bap. 1628 at Kingston by Sea, d. 1628 at Kingston by Sea

- **Joseph Newington,** bap. 1586 at Salehurst, d. 1617 at Kingston by Sea
- **Bethsua Newington,** bap. 1588 at Salehurst
+ **Magnus Byne,** m. 1608 at Kingston by Sea

- **Zabulon Newington,** b. c1547
- **Mary Newington,** b. c1550
+ **William Weston,** m. 1582 at Mayfield
- **Thomas Newington,** b. c1550, d. 1619 at Ripe
+ **unknown spouse**
- **Thomas Newington,** b. c1590, d. 1613 at Ripe
- **Mary Newington,** bap. 1592 at Etchingham
- **Joseph Newington,** bap. 1595 at Etchingham, d. 1597 at Ripe
- **Zabulon Newington,** bap. 1600 at Ripe

- **Joseph Newington,** b. c1555, d. 1621 at Ticehurst
+ **Denise Pudland,** m. 1580 at Ticehurst, d. 1586 at Ticehurst
- **Morgayn Newington,** bap. 1582 at Ticehurst

- **Zabulon Newington,** bap. 1583 at Ticehurst, d. 1635 at Ticehurst, pro. 1635

+ **Godsgift Hepden,** bap. 1587 at Warbleton, m. c1605
- **Joseph Newington,** bap. 1606 at Burwash, d. 1686 at Burwash
+ **Alice Langham,** b. c1625, m. 1652 at Burwash, d. 1687 at Burwash
- **Harry Newington,** bap. 1607 at Ticehurst
- **John Newington,** bap. 1610 at Burwash
- **Thomas Newington,** bap. 1611 at Burwash
- **Zabulon Newington,** bap. 1613 at Burwash
- **Judith Newington,** bap. 1615 at Ticehurst
- **Samuel Newington,** bap. 1616 at Ticehurst
- **Benjamin Newington,** bap. c1618
- **Anne Newington,** bap. 1621 at Ticehurst
- **Elizabeth Newington,** bap. 1623 at Ticehurst
- **George Newington,** bap. 1627 at Ticehurst

+ **Susan Beale,** mlc. 1590, d. 1638
- **Bethsua Newington,** bap. 1591 at Ticehurst

**Samuel Newington,** b. c1555, d. 1612 at Salehurst
+ **Ann Hayman,** m. 1578 at Salehurst, d. 1602 at Salehurst
- **William Newington,** bap. 1579 at Salehurst, d. 1580 at Salehurst
- **Priscilla Newington,** bap. 1581 at Salehurst
+ **Samuel Cruttenden,** m. 1599 at Salehurst
- **Samuel Newington,** b. c1583 at Salehurst, d. 1619 at Burwash
+**Ann Cruttenden,** b. 1584 at Burwash, m. c1605
- **Anna Newington,** b. c1610, d. c1693, pro. 1693/94
+ **John Akehurst,** bap. 1601 at Hastings, m. 1631 at Hellingly, d. 1657 at Warbleton, pro. 1657
- **John Akehurst,** bap. 1633 at Hellingly, d. 1693, pro. 1693
- **Samuel Akehurst,** bap. 1634 at Hellingly
- **Anna Akehurst,** bap. 1636 at Hellingly
+**(--?--) Mason,** m. c1660
- **Samuel Mason,** b. c1665
- **Joseph Mason,** b. c1670

+**George Capstock,** m. c1685
- **Mary Akehurst,** bap. 1637 at Hellingly, d. 1657 at Hellingly
- **Jabez Newington,** bap. 1588 at Salehurst, d. 1613 at Salehurst
+ **Elizabeth Cheesman,** m. 1606 at Salehurst
- **Samuel Newington,** bap. 1608 at Salehurst
- **Deborah Newington,** bap. 1590 at Salehurst
+ **Edmund Midhurst,** m. 1621 at Burwash
- **Phebe Newington,** bap. 1593 at Salehurst
+ **John Foster,** m. 1618 at Burwash
- **Ann Newington,** bap. 1596 at Salehurst
+ **John Golding,** m. 1619 at Burwash
- **Maria Newington,** bap. 1599 at Salehurst

+ **Frances (--?--),** m. c1605, d. 1606 at Salehurst

## 72. Will of Thomas Nailard of Heathfield, 1827

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/76/200)
Made: 8 December 1826
Proved: 17 October 1827

This is the last Will and Testament of me **Thomas Nailard** of Heathfield in the County of Sussex Farmer made this Eighth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty six I direct that my just Debts Funeral Testamentary and incidental Expences be in the first place fully paid Also I bequeath to my dear Wife **Susannah Nailard** so much and such parts of my Household Goods Implements of Household Plate Linen China and Furniture as she shall choose not exceeding in value the sum of fifteen pounds Also I bequeath to my said Wife the sum of ten pounds Sterling to be paid to her within one Month after my Decease Also I bequeath unto **William Akehurst** of Heathfield aforesaid Labourer now and for several years past employed by me as a Workman the sum of nineteen Guinea Sterling to be paid to him by my said Executrix within six Months after my decease Also I bequeath unto **Sarah Akehurst** the wife of the said **William Akehurst** the like sum of nineteen Guinea Sterling for her separate use exclusive of her Husband to be paid to her within six Months after my decease Also I bequeath unto **Mary Akehurst** daughter of the said **William and Sarah Akehurst** the sum of ten pounds Sterling to be paid to her within six Months after my decease Also I bequeath to my Grandson **James Nailard** son of my daughter **Hannah** my Silver Watch with its Appendages and my Clothes and Wearing Apparel to be delivered to him immediately after my decease Also I give and bequeath unto **John Baldock** of Burwash in the said County Gentleman and my Nephew **George Hosman** of Mayfield in the said County Carpenter the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds Sterling Upon Trust to place out and invest the same at Interest in their names or in the name of the survivor of them upon Real or Government Securities to accumulate and from time to time to call in the same or any part thereof and place the same out again upon Securities of the like nature until **Thomas Nailard Akehurst** a natural son of the said **Mary Akehurst** shall attain the age of twenty one years and when and so soon as he shall attain that age then Upon further Trust to pay assign and transfer the said sum of two hundred and fifty pounds and the Interest and Dividends then accumulated and due for the same unto him the said **Thomas Nailard Akehurst** and to whom I bequeath the same accordingly Provided always and my Will further is and I do hereby authorize and empower my said Trustees at any time or times after my decease of their own proper authority to advance the sum of fifty pounds part of the said sum of two hundred and fifty pounds for the purpose of placing the said **Thomas Nailard Akehurst** out to learn any business or trade or for or towards his preferment establishment or advancement in any business or trade or otherwise for his benefit Also I give devise and bequeath unto the said **Thomas Nailard Akehurst** his Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns respectively a certain Piece or Parcel of Land called the Common Field containing by Estimation six acres more or less situate in Heathfield aforesaid near the Turnpike Road leading from Burwash to Lewes and holden as Copyhold of the Manor of Heathfield and now in my own possession or occupation And also my Term and Interest of and in all that my Leasehold Messuage Cottage or Tenement Buildings Gardens Orchards Lands and Hereditaments with the Appurtenances situate in Heathfield aforesaid now in the occupation of John Weston or his Assigns (subject nevertheless to the Rent and Covenants in the Lease thereof reserved and contained) To hold the same Estates with their Appurtenances (subject as aforesaid) unto and to the use of him the said **Thomas Nailard Akehurst** his Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns respectively according to the nature of the several Estates Also I give and bequeath unto the said **William Akehurst** his Executors Administrators and Assigns my Term and Interest of and in All that Cottage and Piece or Parcel of Waste ground containing by Estimation ten Acres and three roods more or less situate lying and being near Swiss Corner on Heathfield Down in the Parish of Heathfield aforesaid late in the occupation of William Reeves but now in the occupations of **Samuel Thomson** and myself and by me purchased of and from

**William Daw the Younger** subject nevertheless to the Rents and Covenants in the Lease thereof reserved and contained To hold the same (so subject as aforesaid) unto and to the use of the said **William Akehurst** his Executors Administrators and Assigns until the said **Thomas Nailard Akehurst** shall attain the age of fifteen years Upon this Condition nevertheless that the said **William Akehurst** his Executors Administrators or Assigns shall keep the same Leasehold Messuage and premises in tenantable repair pay the Rent that shall become due of the same and maintain cloath and educate the said **Thomas Nailard Akehurst** untill he shall attain the said age of fifteen years And when and so soon as the said **Thomas Nailard Akehurst** shall attain the said age of fifteen years I give and bequeath my said Term and Interest of and in the same Cottage and Piece or Parcel of Waste ground (so subject as aforesaid) unto him the said **Thomas Nailard Akehurst** his Executors Administrators and Assigns To hold the same (so subject as aforesaid) unto and to the use of him the said **Thomas Nailard Akehurst** his Executors Administrators and Assigns in as full large ample and beneficial manner to all Intents and Purposes as I now have hold or enjoy the same Also I give devise and bequeath unto my said Wife **Susannah Nailard** for the term of her natural life one Annuity or clear yearly Rent Charge or sum of twenty pounds Sterling free from all Taxes Charges Deductions and Assessments whatsoever to be yearly issuing and payable out of All and every of my Freehold Messuages or Tenements Buildings Farms Lands Woodlands and Hereditaments and the Residue of my Real Estate whatsoever and wheresoever (not hereinbefore otherwise devised) the same to be paid into the proper hands of my said Wife **Susannah Nailard** on the twenty fifth day of March and the twenty ninth day of September in every year by even and equal portions half yearly to be paid the first payment thereof to begin and be made on such of the said days of payment as shall first and next happen after my decease And in case the said Annuity or Rent Charge of twenty pounds or any part thereof shall be behind and unpaid by the space of twenty one days next after either of the said days of payment whereon the same ought to be paid as aforesaid (being lawfully demanded) that then and so often and upon every such default it shall be lawful for her my said Wife into and upon the said Freehold Messuages or Tenements Farms Lands Woodlands Hereditaments and Real Estate so charged with the payment of the said Annuity or Rent Charge or into any part thereof to enter and distrain for the said Annuity or Rent Charge and all Arrears thereof and the distress and distresses then and there found to take lead drive carry away and impound and in pound to detain and keep or otherwise to sell and dispose of the same according to Law until thereby or therewith or otherwise the said Annuity or Rent Charge and all Arrears thereof together with the Costs and Charges of such Distress and Distresses Sale and Sales shalbe fully satisfied and paid unto her my said Wife she returning the Overplus if any unto such Person or Persons as shall from time to time be entitled to the Rents Issues and Profits of the same Estates And I do hereby declare that the Provision which I have hereinbefore made for my said Wife shall be in full lieu and bar of her Dower and Thirds at Common Law or otherwise to all the Real Estate whereof I shall die seized And I do hereby require her my said Wife on request to her for that purpose made to execute a Release of her said Dower and Thirds unto the Person or Persons who by virtue of this my Will shall be respectively entitled to my said Real Estate And I do hereby charge and subject my said Freehold Messuages or Tenements Buildings Farms Lands Woodlands Hereditaments and Real Estate (not hereinbefore devised) to and with the payment of the said Annuity or Rent Charge of twenty pounds to my said Wife for her life accordingly And subject thereto I give devise and bequeath unto the said **John Baldock** and **George Hosman** their Heirs and Assigns All and every of my said Freehold Messuages or Tenements Buildings Farms Lands Woodlands and Hereditaments and the residue of my Real Estate whatsoever and wheresoever (not hereinbefore otherwise devised) with their and every of their Rights Members and Appurtenances To hold the same and every of them and every part and parcel thereof with their appurtenances (so subject as aforesaid) unto them the said **John Baldock** and **George Hosman** their Heirs and Assigns Upon Trust that they or the Survivor of them or his Heirs shall and do as soon as conveniently may be after my decease demise and let the same Estate together or in parcels during the joint natural lives

of my Daughters **Ann** and **Hannah** and during the natural life of the longer liver of them to such Person or Persons and for such Rent or Rents as to them my said Trustees or the Survivor of them or his Heirs shall seem reasonable and most conducive to the benefit of the Trusts hereinafter mentioned and upon payment of the Rent or Rents for the same give good and proper Receipts Releases or Discharges for such rent or Rents and Upon further Trust by and out of such Rent and Rent to pay the Quitrents to become due and payable for the said Hereditaments and real Estate and also the Expences of keeping the said Messuage Buildings and premises in good tenantable repair and other incidental charges and expences and also all Arrears of the said Annuity or Rent Charge of twenty pounds to my said Wife and after payment thereof to divide and pay the Residue of such Rent and Rents in equal shares and proportions unto and between and into the proper hands of my said Daughters **Ann** and **Hannah** for and during the Term of their joint natural life for their own separate and peculiar use respectively exclusive of any Husband who is not to intermeddle therewith nor is the same or any part thereof to be subject or liable to the Debts or Controul of any Husband and the Receipts of my said Daughters respectively to be the only good discharges for the same And from and after the decease of either of them my said Daughters **Ann** and **Hannah** Then upon further Trust to pay all the said Residue of the said Rent and Rents as aforesaid into the proper hands of the Survivor of them my said Daughters **Ann** and **Hannah** for and during the Term of the natural life of such Survivor of them my said Daughters **Ann** and **Hannah** for and during the Term of the natural life of such Survivor for her own separate and peculiar use exclusive of any Husband in manner aforesaid And from and after the decease of the Survivor of them my said Daughters **Ann** and **Hannah** Upon further Trust that they my said Trustees or the Survivor of them or his Heirs shall and do sell and absolutely dispose of my said Freehold Messuages or Tenements Buildings Farms Lands Woodlands Hereditaments and Residue of my Real Estate (not hereinbefore otherwise devised) with their Appurtenances either together or in parcels by Public Sale or Auction or by private Contract on in such other manner and to such Person or Persons and for such price and prices sum or sums of money as to them or the Survivor of them or his Heirs shall seem reasonable and most conducive to the benefit of the Trusts hereinafter mentioned and upon payment of the money for which the same shall be so sold to convey and assure the Hereditaments and Premises so to be sold to the Purchaser or Purchasers thereof and his her or their Heirs and Assigns and to give one or more Receipt or Receipts for the money for which the same shall be sold which Receipt or Receipts shall be a good and effectual discharge or good and effectual discharges to any Purchaser or Purchasers for the money for which the same shall be so sold and of so much thereof as in such Receipt or Receipts shall be expressed to be received and such Purchaser or Purchasers and his her or their Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns shall not afterwards be obliged to see to the application or be answerable or accountable for any loss misapplication or nonapplication of the said Purchase monies or any part thereof And Upon further Trust that they my said Trustees or the Survivor of them or his Heirs shall and do as soon as conveniently may be after such sale and sales divide and pay all the clear monies to arise therefrom (after deducting incidental charges and expences) in equal shares and proportions unto and amongst my Grandchildren **Ann William Susannah Mary Thomas Elizabeth Richard Samuel John George Lydia Benjamin and David** sons and daughters of my said Daughter **Ann** And my Grandchildren **Frances Harriet Marian James Phoebe Thomas Ruth George and Elizabeth** Sons and Daughters of my said Daughter **Hannah** and all and every other Child and Children of them my said Daughters **Ann** and **Hannah** and each of them begotten or to be begotten that shall be then living and to whom I bequeath the same accordingly Also I give and bequeath unto and equally between my said Daughters **Ann** and **Hannah** All the Residue and Remainder of my ready monies and Securities for money Monies in the Public Stocks or Funds Goods Chattels Cattle Husbandry Tackle Stock Debts Effects and Personal Estate whatsoever and wheresoever (not hereinbefore otherwise disposed of) and all my Estate and interest therein To hold the same unto and equally between them my said Daughters **Ann** and **Hannah** share and share alike for their own sole and separate use and benefit respectively

exclusive of any Husband as aforesaid And my Will and mind further is that they the said **John Baldock and George Hosman** or either of them their or either of their Heirs Executors or Administrators shall not be charged with nor be accountable for any more of the aforesaid Trust Estate monies and Premises than they shall respectively actually receive or shall come to their respective Hands by virtue of this my Will notwithstanding either of them may sign or give or join or concur in signing or giving any Receipt or Receipts for the sake of conformity nor with or for any loss which shall happen in placing out all or any of the Trust Monies aforesaid nor of any Security or Securities as aforesaid or by the deficiency or insufficiency arising by depositing all or any of the said Trust Monies in any Bank or in any Bankers hands or elsewhere for safe custody or otherwise nor with or for any loss which shall happen of the aforesaid Trust Estates Monies and Premises so as such loss happens without their wilful neglect or default nor the one for the other of them or for the others Heirs Executors or Administrators Acts or Deeds but each of them only for his own Acts Deeds Receipts or Disbursements And also that it shall be lawful for them the said **John Baldock and George Hosman** and each of them their and each of their Heirs Executors and Administrators in the first place to deduct retain and reimburse to themselves and himself and also to allow to his and their Co Trustee by and out of the aforesaid Trust Estates Monies and Premises All such Losses Costs charges Damages and Expences as they or either of them shall bear pay sustain expend or be put unto for or by reason of the Trusts hereby in them reposed or by reason of their acting as Executors to this my Will Together with a reasonable allowance for their and each of their Journies Trouble and Loss of time in and about the same And I do hereby nominate and appoint the said **John Baldock and George Hosman** joint Executors of this my last Will and Testament and do hereby revoke all former Wills and Codicil by me made In Witness whereof I the said **Thomas Nailard** the Testator have to this my last Will and Testament contained in this and the five preceding Sheets of Paper set my hand and seal (to wit) my hand to the five preceding Sheets and my hand and Seal to this last Sheet the day and year first above written **Thomas Nailard** The Writing contained in this and the five preceding Sheets of Paper was signed and sealed by the above named **Thomas Nailard** the Testator and by him published and declared as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as Witnesses at his request **John George Philcox Robert Tournay Junr James Philcox**

On the seventeenth day of October 1827 Were sworn **John Baldock & George Hosman** the Executors named in this Will to whom the Execution thereof was committed and the said **John Baldock & George Hosman** were at the same time particularly sworn that the Effects of the Testator were under the value of Fifteen hundred Pounds Under a due caution by Us J B Hayley Surrogate

Value under £1500

*Transcribed by Rosie Ansell November 2020.*

**NOTES**

Thomas Nailard married Susanna Eastwood at Mayfield 4 June 1771.
Thomas was buried at Heathfield 24 July 1827, aged 76.
Susanna was buried at Heathfield 10 April 1830 aged 83.
Ann Nailard married William Pain at Heathfield 3 July 1800, 17 children baptised at Heathfield (2 died young) Ann was buried 4 August 1851 aged 67.
Hannah Nailard was buried 10 March 1853 aged 66. All her children were illegitimate, by William Napp or Knapp and listed in his will. There are baptisms of 1 child at Burwash, 4 at Heathfield chapel and 4 at All Saints, Heathfield, also a bastardy examination for one of them (AAB/2/1/817)

William Akehurst married Sarah Stevens on 14 Apr 1795 at Mayfield.
See Tree 4. “Hailsham, Alfriston, West Firle” in Chapter 2.

## 73. Will of Jesse Fuller, Farmer of Burwash, 1840

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/80/423)
Made: 16 Dec 1838
Proved: 8 Jul 1840

This is the last will and testament of me **Jesse Fuller the younger** of Burwash in the County of Sussex, Farmer made this sixthenth day of December one thousand eight hundred and thirty eight. I direct my funeral testamentary and legal debts to be paid. I give and bequeath unto **James Russell the elder and James Russell the younger** both of Burwash aforesaid, farmers and their heirs all my real estate whatsoever and wheresover upon trust to sell and convey the same to the purchaser or purchasers thereof and to give receipts for the purchase monies which shall be good discharges for the same and the purchasers shall not be obliged to see to the application of such purchase monies nor shall be answerable for the loss misapplication or nonapplication thereof. Also I bequeath to the said **James Russell the elder and James Russel the younger** their executors and admimistrators all my personal estate and effects whatsoever upon trust to call in sell counsel and receive the same. And upon further trust to invest all the monies to arise from my said real and personal estates on real or government securities and interest and to call in and reinvest the same as often as they may see occasion and to pay and apply the interest and dividends thereof and also such part of the principal as they may think proper for and towards fo maintaining clothing and advancement of the two children of my late wife **Frances Fuller** formerly **Frances Akehurst**, spinster, born before out marriage and named **James** and **Stephen** in equal shares and when and as they attain their respective ages of twenty one years to pay unto him so attaining that age an equal share of the said trust monies not applied for the purposes aforesaid and I direct that each childs share shall be a vested in interest on their respectively attaining the age of twenty one years or on marriage which shall first happen and I authorise and empower may said trustees to let all or any part of my real estate for their benefit as they in their discretion shall deem most beneficial to the trusts aforesaid and in all other respects to act as fully as I myself could have done if living. And I appooint the said **James Russell the elder and James Russell the younger** joint executors of this my will with power to reimburse themselves all losses costs charges damages and expenses that may arrise in carrying the aforesaid trusts into execution with a reasonable allowance for the journies trouble and loss of time. And I revoke all the former wills and codicils by me made. In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name the day and year first above written. The mark X of **Jesse Fuller Jun**. Signed by the above named **Jesse Fuller the younger** the testator in the prescence of us who in his prescence at his request and in the prescence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses. **Wm Heathfield Thos A. Evans**.

The will of **Jesse Fuller the younger** late of Burwash within the Archdeanery of Lewes, farmer deceased was proved the eighth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty before the Reverend John Burrell Hayley clerk surrogate and so forth upon the oath of **James Russell the younger** one of the executors in the said will named to whom was committed the administration of the goods he being the first sworn well and faithfully to administer the same and so forth.(Power reserved for granting the like commission to **James Russell the elder** the other executor therein named when) Sworn also that the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased do not amount in value unto twenty pounds.

*Transcribed by Janet Akehurst, January 2021*

## NOTES

Jesse Fuller was buried 20 Dec 1838 at Burwash St Bartholomew ("43 years").

Jesse Fuller married Frances Akehurst on 21 Nov 1835 at Burwash.
Frances Fuller (nee Akehurst) was buried 15 Dec 1838 at Burwash St Bartholomew ("30 years, wife of Jesse").

James Achurst [sic] was baptised 25 Jan 1835 at Burwash St Bartholomew, son of Frances Achurst, spinster (1861 census has him born c1831).
Stephen Achurst was baptised 10 May 1835 at Burwash St Bartholomew, son of Frances Achurst, spinster (1861 census has him born c1831).

On his marriage certificate, James gives his father as Jesse Fuller. However, the will of Jesse Fuller above appears to confirm that he is not the biological father.
James Akehurst married Ann Cornwell on 25 Dec 1850 at Heathfield.

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